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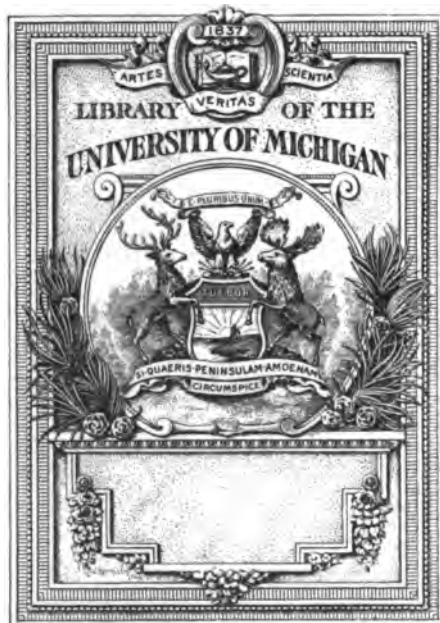
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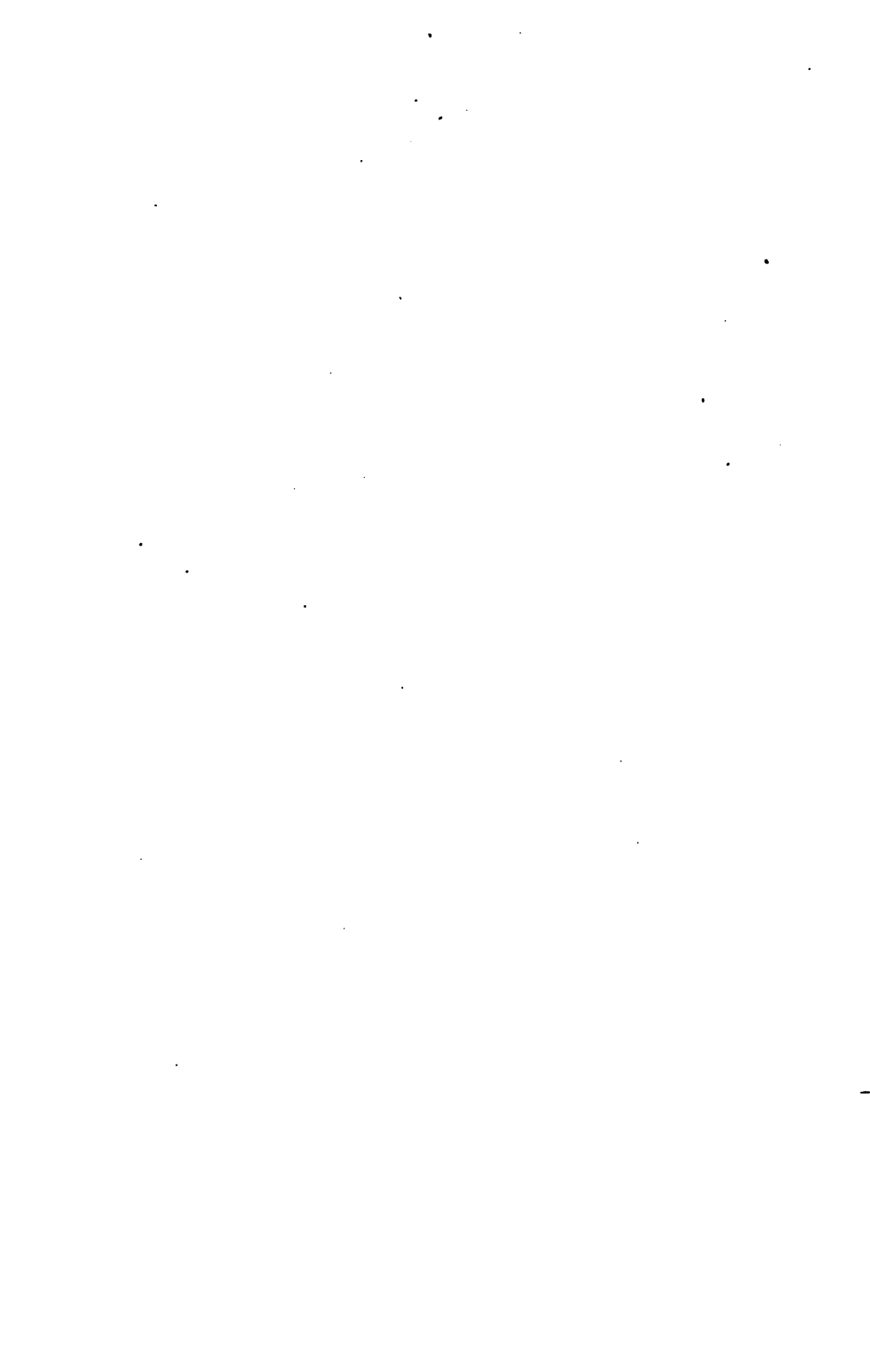
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# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

# WAR DEPARTMENT

FOR THE

FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1902.

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VOLUME VIII.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS.

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WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1902.





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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHICKAMAUGA AND  
CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL MILITARY  
PARK COMMISSION.**

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REPORT  
OF THE  
CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL  
MILITARY PARK COMMISSION.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA  
NATIONAL PARK COMMISSION,  
*Washington, October 1, 1902.*

SIR: This Commission has the honor to submit its annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902:

The assignment under your order of the park engineer, Mr. E. E. Betts, to special work in furtherance of the establishment of the Vicksburg National Military Park has continued to occupy his attention throughout the year. The Commission, while reporting that this has of necessity retarded its own work, feels great satisfaction that his services proved of much value and effected large financial saving. By correspondence with his well-trained force of expert workmen and occasional visits to our field he was able to keep the work of maintenance well advanced.

In submitting its estimates of \$40,000 for the coming year the Commission has been able to effect a reduction of \$10,000, and hereafter expects that there will be no further necessity for appropriations for the work of establishing the park beyond those required for its maintenance. It is believed that this will not exceed, and will probably fall somewhat below, \$30,000.

In presenting these figures the Commission, while fully appreciating the excellent work of the other military parks, calls attention to the fact that in acreage and improved mileage this park exceeds in each of these items the aggregate of all the other parks. This comparison is deemed necessary to a correct judgment of the totals in cost of maintenance.

The report of the engineer herewith submitted,<sup>a</sup> sets forth in detail all work undertaken, the portion completed, and the cost of each branch of work.

ROADS.

The heaviest work of the year has been the construction, betterment, and maintenance of roads. The road between Glass's Mill and Crawfish Springs (2½ miles) has been completed, at a cost of \$2,600 per mile; also that along the Union battle lines at the Kelly and Poe fields (1½ miles), upon which many regimental monuments, of great interest to visitors, are located, at a total cost of \$2,117.32—\$1,209.90 per mile. Right of way for the Dry Valley road from Rossville to Vittetoes, extended from 30 to 50 feet in width by donations of land

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<sup>a</sup>Not printed.

## 8 CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL MILITARY PARK.

by owners along the line, has been secured and work upon it begun. The betterments include the laying of 4 miles of standard paved gut-  
tering, at a cost of 25½ cents per linear foot, the building of 43 culvert  
head-walls and 21 culverts, the laying of 2,822 square feet of rock  
revetment and the spreading of 7,410 cubic yards of gravel. The  
total cost of construction and betterments was \$20,074.87.

### MAINTENANCE.

The following expenditures have been made for maintenance:

Buildings.....	\$80. 21
Roads.....	8, 855. 25
Monuments, tablets, and towers.....	846. 44
Water supply.....	50. 33
Total.....	9, 832. 23

### GUNS.

During the present year no addition has been made to the number  
of guns mounted to mark battery positions on the various fields  
included in the park system. But 20 gun carriages were contracted for  
for the Chattanooga field and are now ready for delivery. They will  
soon be in place. We shall then have 16 Confederate battery posi-  
tions marked on Missionary Ridge and a total of 270 guns mounted.

### TABLETS.

There are now on the park proper, the approaches, and the various  
outlying reservations 643 historical tablets and 368 distance and local-  
ity tablets, many of the latter of an historical character. Six tablets  
warning visitors against trespass have been erected at the observation  
towers during the past year.

### FENCING.

The Chickamauga Park is now practically inclosed with Page woven-  
wire fence, 20-bar, 58 inches high, on cedar posts 16 feet apart. This,  
to a great extent, has cleared the park of roaming live stock. It has  
been found necessary, however, to employ four gatekeepers at the  
entrances and exits of the principal thoroughfares through the park,  
which must be left open.

### MODEL IN RELIEF.

The model in relief of the battlefield region about Chattanooga,  
covering an area of 171 square miles, to which reference was made in  
our last annual report, has been completed in triplicate. One of these  
has been sent to the United States Military Academy at West Point,  
another to the Army Military School at Fort Leavenworth, Kans.,  
and the third, intended for the use of the War College in this city,  
awaits the convenience of the college authorities to receive it. The  
copy sent to West Point has excited much interest and favorable  
comment.

### FIELD WORK.

All of the main fields of the park were mown with machines, and  
such as were grown up with sprouts too large to be cut by machines  
were worked over with brush scythes and mattocks to prepare them

for future mowing with machines. A small force has been constantly employed in the forest, cutting and piling windfalls and brush. The entire area of the park was worked over, stopping erosions, gullies, and ditches cut by the troops which had been encamped there. The total expense on this account has been \$2,400.31.

#### EXPENSES INCURRED BY ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.

Our engineer submits the following supplemental statement of the expenses incurred in his department during the current fiscal year. These are explained in detail in his report, which accompanies this.

Means of transportation .....	\$41.00
Miscellaneous tools .....	221.73
Water supply .....	109.39
Expense, incidental .....	1,551.65
Field work .....	2,400.31
Inclosures and fencing .....	3,574.23
Trees and shrubbery .....	89.63
Monuments, tablets, and towers .....	529.61
Machinery, maintenance .....	34.00
Drainage .....	378.21
Paving .....	5,324.86
Total .....	14,254.62

#### STATE MONUMENTS.

The State of Iowa has appropriated \$35,000 for a State monument and 12 monuments to individual regiments and batteries, all on the Chattanooga field.

Ohio has appropriated \$30,000, of which \$20,000 will be for a State monument on Missionary Ridge and the rest for bronze historical tablets to mark the locations of each organization on the battle lines. The Government is under obligations to Mr. Joseph H. Rathburn, a public spirited citizen of Chattanooga, for the donation of a spacious and prominent site on Missionary Ridge, which has been assigned to this monument. It is a most appropriate location, owing to the fact that a portion of Turchin's Brigade, in which were six Ohio regiments, ascended the ridge at this point.

The State of Maryland has appropriated \$7,000 for a monument to one Union regiment and a Confederate battery. This will be erected at Orchard Knob with a suitable marker and mounted guns near Tunnel Hill, where the battery fought.

#### TROOPS CAMPED AT PARK.

The Commission takes pleasure in reporting that the park is rapidly becoming of practical value to the Government.

Early in the present year the Seventh U. S. Cavalry and the Third Battery were brought from Cuba and camped in the park. The camp, under the personal direction of Major-General Brooke, was established with great care before the arrival of the troops, the park force giving such assistance as it could render. The camp was thoroughly sewered and abundant water facilities provided for drinking, cooking, stables, and bath houses, and for watering the grounds. It is now one of the most perfect field camps to be found, and pending the building of the new army post it will be made still more comfortable for winter.

## HEALTH CONDITIONS OF PARK.

In view of the sensational reports charging that the park is an unhealthful tract, it is proper to say that during the past year it has been free from serious disease and has fully maintained its long record before the war with Spain, and for the period subsequent to that time, for exceptional healthfulness.

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

The receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, were as follows, vouchers for each item of expenditure being on file in the office of the disbursing clerk of the War Department:

## Receipts:

On hand per last report, balance of appropriation fiscal year ending June 30, 1901 .....	\$15, 035. 20
Appropriation for fiscal year ending June 30, 1902 .....	58, 600. 00
Total .....	<u>73, 635. 20</u>

## Expenditures from July 1, 1901, to June 30, 1902:

Salaries of Commissioners .....	7, 200. 00
Salaries of clerk and messenger .....	2, 600. 00
Salaries of employees at park .....	12, 560. 00
Mileage, etc .....	817. 30
Miscellaneous—	
Flags .....	\$104. 42
Forage .....	1, 007. 41
Freight .....	6. 75
Harness .....	37. 50
Oaths to contracts .....	3. 75
Office supplies .....	91. 59
Photographs and photograph supplies .....	17. 73
Telegrams .....	30. 07
Telephone service .....	61. 50
Transportation .....	400. 78
Typewriter repairs .....	37. 29
	<u>1, 798. 79</u>
Stationery and printing .....	1, 087. 02
Furniture .....	34. 25
Legal expenses .....	40. 45
Labor .....	32, 657. 76
Machinery, tools, etc .....	176. 70
Materials for construction .....	1, 294. 18
Tablets .....	175. 55
Monuments .....	12. 00
Towers, painting .....	324. 50
Gun carriages, repairs to .....	17. 20
Fencing, material for .....	1, 444. 55
Water supply, pumps .....	35. 00
Model in relief .....	3, 505. 00
Total .....	<u>65, 780. 25</u>

Receipts .....	73, 635. 20
Expenditures .....	<u>65, 780. 25</u>
Balance .....	7, 854. 95

Respectfully submitted.

H. V. BOYNTON,  
*Chairman of Commission.*

The SECRETARY OF WAR.



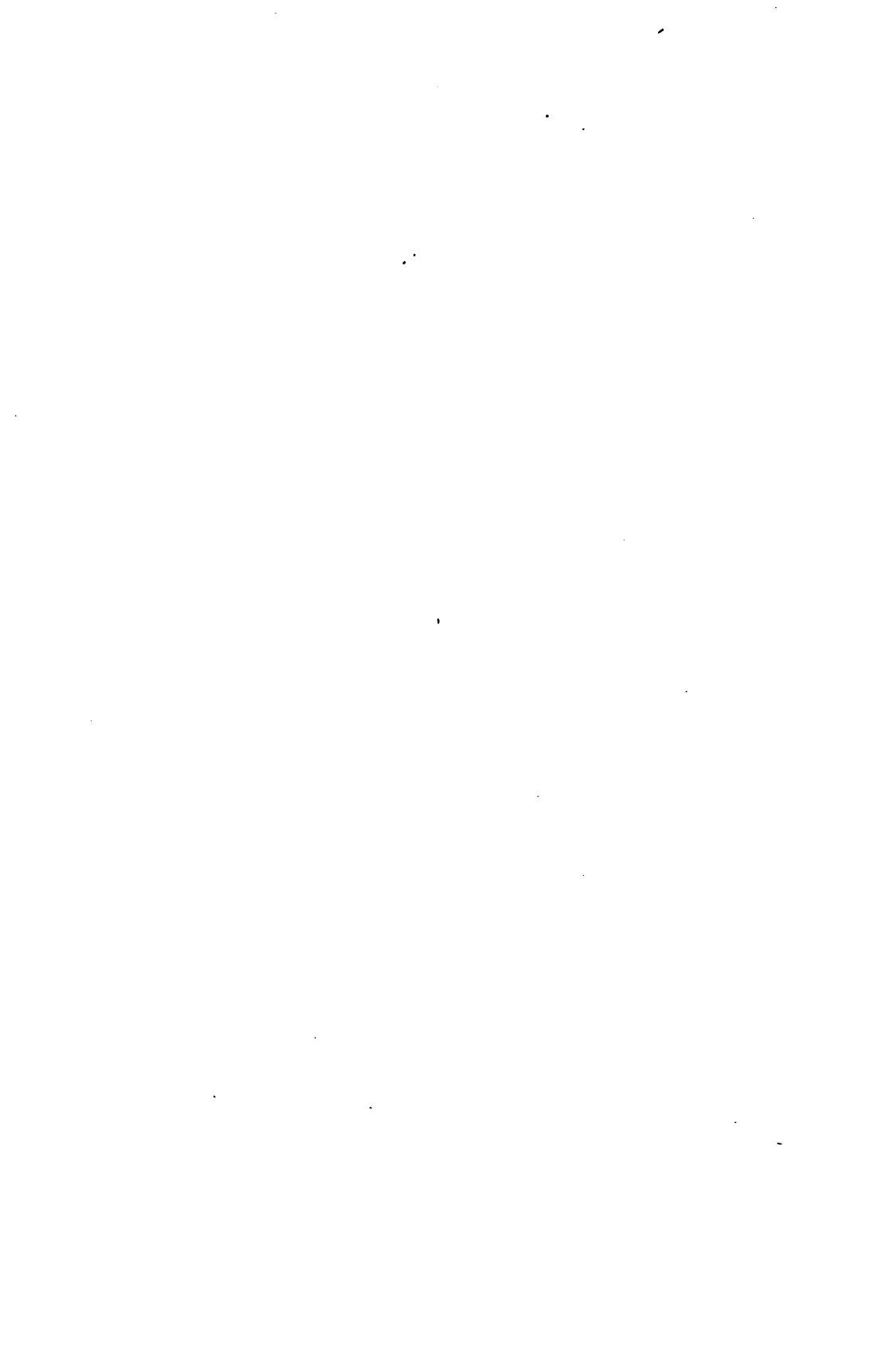
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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GETTYSBURG NATIONAL  
MILITARY PARK COMMISSION.**

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REPORT  
OF THE  
GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK COMMISSION.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK COMMISSION,  
*Gettysburg, Pa., August 1, 1902.*

SIR. The Gettysburg National Military Park Commission respectfully submit the following report of their work, its progress during the past year and its present condition, with suggestions as to what is needed for its further prosecution.

MILITARY AVENUES.

Pleasanton avenue, which was in course of construction at the date of our last report, was completed soon thereafter. It runs eastward from Hancock avenue near the point where General Hancock was wounded to the headquarters of the Union cavalry on the Taneytown road.

Chamberlain and Warren avenues have also been constructed. The former runs southward from near the summit of Little Round Top along the crest of Vincent Spur and the battle line of the Union troops in their defense of that position in the afternoon of July 2, 1863, and then, curving down the slope, connects with Sykes avenue in the gap between Round Top and Little Round Top. Warren avenue starts from Sykes avenue at that same point and runs westward along the base of Little Round Top to Plum Run Valley and crossing that run joins Crawford avenue near the Devils Den.

Buford avenue is now under contract, and the work upon it is proceeding and will soon be completed. It runs from the north end of Reynolds avenue in a northwesterly direction to the Mummasburg road along the line of the Union cavalry which menaced the left flank of the Confederate forces as they advanced into the first day's battle.

These avenues, like all others on the field, are constructed on the Telford plan in the most durable style, and will last for centuries. The total length of the Telford avenues now constructed on the field is about 17 miles.

There are several others which should be constructed, among them Wright avenue along the line of Wright's Division, on the left of Sedgwick's Corps, from between the Round Tops southeastwardly across the Taneytown road; another along the lines of Meredith's and Stone's brigades on the first day's field; one also on Oak Hill and vicinity, where the infantry and artillery of Rodes's Division of Ewell's Corps debouched and took position in the first day's battle, and another leading from the Hanover road east of Rock Creek to Benner's Hill, where a number of Confederate batteries were posted on the second and third days.

Two avenues of no great length have been projected in and near the "Wheatfield," one running from the Wheatfield road, near Plum Run Valley, southward along the line of the Pennsylvania Reserves to Sickles avenue; the other starting from Sickles avenue and running along the Union line in the southwest border of the Wheatfield; then crossing the Western Branch of Plum Run and following the line of General Brooke's brigade on the summit of Rose Hill. Avenues are also needed to connect the cavalry battlefields both east and south of Gettysburg with the battlefield of the infantry. In some of the cases mentioned the Government owns the land; in others it will be necessary to acquire the lands on which to construct the proposed avenues.

The legislature of Pennsylvania having granted to the United States the right to convert public roads into Telford avenues within the limits of the battlefield, the Secretary of War has authorized this to be done on the Taneytown road, as it will soon be, from the borough line of Gettysburg to a point south of General Meade's headquarters. The same should be done on the Mummasburg road from Howard avenue to Buford avenue; also the Fairfield or Hagerstown road from the south end of Reynolds avenue to West Confederate avenue; also the road leading from the north end of Crawford avenue to United States avenue, and the so-called Wheatfield road running from east to west across the entire battlefield.

#### TABLETS AND GUNS.

Since our last report monumental tablets have been prepared and erected along the Confederate avenue on Seminary Ridge to mark the positions of each and all the Confederate brigades which occupied that ridge from the Wheatfield road on the right to the Hagerstown road on the left, viz: Barksdale's Mississippi and Wofford's Georgia brigades of McLaw's Division; Kemper's, Garnett's, and Armistead's Virginia brigades of Pickett's Division; Wilcox's Alabama, Perry's Florida, Wright's Georgia, Posey's Mississippi, and Mahone's Virginia brigades of Anderson's Division; Archer's Tennessee, Pettigrew's North Carolina, Davis's Mississippi and North Carolina, and Brock-enbrough's Virginia brigades of Heth's Division, commanded there by General Pettigrew; Scales's and Lane's North Carolina, McGowan's South Carolina, and Thomas's Georgia brigades of Pender's Division. These tablets, like all the other monumental tablets on the field, are  $3\frac{1}{2}$  by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  feet in dimensions, with carefully prepared inscriptions cast in raised letters describing the part taken in the battle by each brigade and stating its numbers and losses so far as practicable to obtain. They are mounted on iron pillars about 3 feet high, grouted in the ground, and the tablets are inclined at a suitable angle so that the inscriptions can easily be read by persons riding or driving on the avenue.

Guns of like class and caliber with those which composed the several batteries along the avenue have been mounted there in the respective positions occupied by the batteries, viz, two batteries of

#### ALEXANDER'S BATTALION.

Moody's Battery, "The Madison (La.) Artillery."  
Rhett's Battery, "The Brooks (S. C.) Artillery."

## ESHLEMAN'S BATTALION.

Miller's, Squires's, Richardson's, and Norcom's batteries, "The Washington (La.) Artillery."

## DEARING'S BATTALION.

Stribling's Battery, "The Farquier Artillery."  
 Caskie's Battery, "The Hampton Artillery."  
 Macon's Battery, "The Richmond Fayette Artillery."  
 Blount's (Va.) Battery.

## POAGUE'S BATTALION.

Ward's Battery, "The Madison (Miss.) Artillery."  
 Brooke's (Va.) Battery.  
 Wyatt's Battery, "The Albemarle (Va.) Artillery."  
 Graham's Battery, "The Charlotte (N. C.) Artillery."

## LANE'S BATTALION.

Patterson's, Wingfield's, and Ross's batteries, "The Sumter (Ga.) Artillery."

## PEGRAM'S BATTALION.

Marye's Battery, "The Fredericksburg Artillery."  
 Crenshaw's (Va.) Battery.  
 Zimmerman's Battery, "The Pee Dee Artillery."  
 McGraw's Battery, "The Purcell Artillery."  
 Brander's Battery, "The Letcher Artillery."

## GARNETT'S BATTALION.

Grandy's Battery, "The Norfolk Light Artillery Blues."  
 Moore's Battery, "The Huger Artillery."  
 Lewis's Battery, "The Lewis Artillery."  
 Maurin's Battery, "The Donaldsonville Artillery."

## DANCE'S BATTALION.

Griffin's Battery, "The Salem Artillery."

The guns mounted to mark the positions of the above-named batteries are 24 Napoleons, 15 3-inch rifles, 11 10-pounder Parrotts, 4 20-pounder Parrotts, 4 12-pounder howitzers, and 2 24-pounder howitzers; in all, 60 guns. Iron tablets of the same dimensions as those of the infantry brigades are erected for each artillery battallion and each battery with inscriptions briefly recording the services rendered by each in the battle, the number of rounds fired, the losses suffered, and other important facts.

Nine itinerary tablets have been erected on East Cemetery Hill, along the Baltimore pike, describing the movements and positions of the Union Army and each of the commands comprising it on each day from June 29 to July 7, 1863.

Ten Confederate itinerary tablets, for which the inscriptions have been prepared, are now being cast and will be erected at a suitable point alongside of the Confederate avenue on Seminary Ridge. They will record the movements of the Confederate Army and its several corps, divisions, and brigades on each day from June 26, 1863, when the last of its forces crossed the Potomac into Maryland, until after the close of the battle and the retreat of the Confederates from Gettysburg, July 5, 1863.

The monumental tablets erected this year to mark the positions and record the services of infantry brigades and of artillery battalions and batteries, together with the itinerary tablets of the Union and Confederate commands, are 84 in number.

The number of guns, Union and Confederate, which have been mounted by the commission on this field to date is 290.

#### WORK OF ENGINEER'S DEPARTMENT.

There have been constructed on the field  $8\frac{1}{2}$  miles of pipe fencing and over 5 miles of post and rail fencing, a large part of both having been done this year. Nearly 4 miles of stone walls and stone fences have also been rebuilt, much of them during the past year. Nearly all of these served as breastworks and defenses in the battle either for Union or Confederate troops. There have also been nearly 5 miles of gutters or drains alongside the Telford avenues paved with stones in a durable manner.

Besides attending to the many other duties devolving upon him, both in the office and on the field, the engineer, Lieut. Col. E. B. Cope, and his assistants, have been engaged in mapping the battlefield. A map of the first day's field has been completed showing with accuracy and distinctness the positions and movements of each command, whether of infantry, cavalry, or artillery, of both the Union and Confederate armies at each and every hour of that day. The same will be done with reference to the other two days of the battle.

#### MONUMENTS.

The Hancock equestrian statue, which was struck by lightning and the pedestal damaged, has been taken down by the Van Amringe Granite Company and is being repaired. This is being done at the expense of the State of Pennsylvania.

On Stevens Knoll a foundation has been laid and a pedestal erected, upon which will shortly be placed an equestrian statue of Maj. Gen. Henry W. Slocum, at the expense of the State of New York.

Two monuments of stone have been erected a short distance east of Sedgwick avenue, one marking the position of Candy's Brigade of Geary's Division in the evening of July 1, 1863, and the other the headquarters of General Sykes, commander of the Fifth Corps.

A stone monument has been placed alongside of Hancock avenue to mark the position of the One hundred and forty-eighth Regiment of Pennsylvania Infantry of July 3, 1863.

A bronze statue has also been erected on Stone avenue, just north of Reynolds Woods, at the expense of the State of Pennsylvania, in honor of John Burns, a citizen of Gettysburg, who, though 70 years old, took his musket and went out into the first day's battle and was severely wounded.

#### ACQUISITIONS OF LANDS.

The proceeding, which was pending at the date of our report of 1901, for the condemnation of a parcel of land containing about 12 acres, situate between the Round Tops and not far from the Devil's Den, has since been concluded by the owner of the land withdrawing his appeal

from the verdict of the jury of view which awarded him \$6,150. This money has been paid, the title made to the Government, and Warren avenue, which has since been constructed, runs across said land.

Eight acres of land situate on the slope of Seminary Ridge, adjacent to the Union line in the first day's battle, has been purchased from Martin Winters, the owner, for \$2,500, and the title made to the Government.

Condemnation proceedings have been begun, with the approval of the Department, for the condemnation of four small parcels of land, containing in all about 10 acres, situate on both sides of Hancock avenue, near Ziegler's grove, and occupied at times during the battle by Union commands. The case has already been before a jury of view, composed of excellent citizens, who awarded \$5,975 for the land. From this award the owner appealed to the United States circuit court for the middle district of Pennsylvania, and there the matter is now pending and will doubtless be disposed of at the next term of said court.

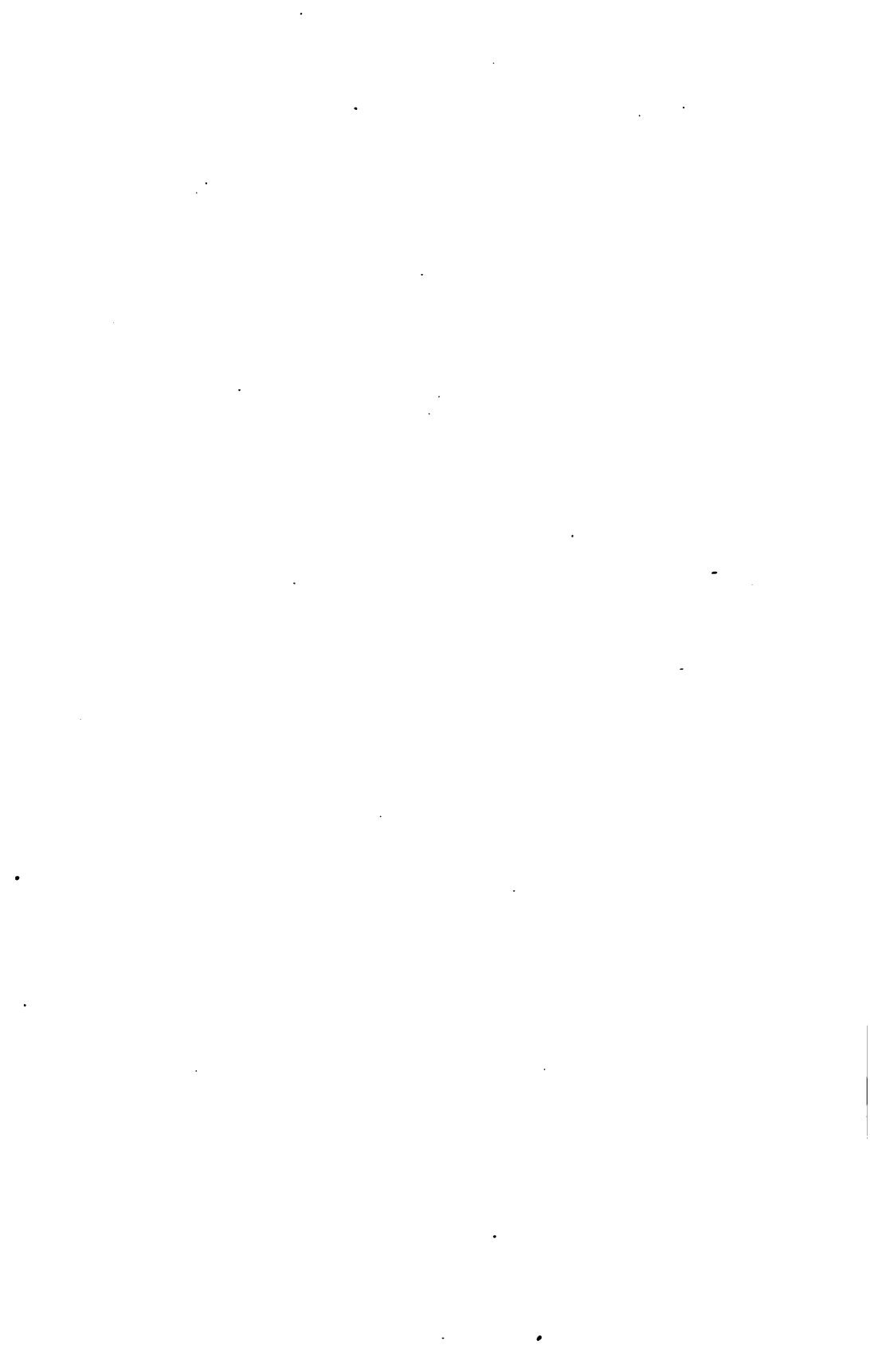
The commission is gratified to say that tens of thousands of visitors from all sections of the country continue to throng the Gettysburg National Park, and are unstinted in their approbation of the Government's purpose to make of this field a great national monument and of the manner in which that purpose is being carried out.

Respectfully,

JOHN P. NICHOLSON,  
*Chairman.*

WM. M. ROBBINS,  
CHAS. A. RICHARDSON,  
*Commissioners.*

THE SECRETARY OF WAR.





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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SHILOH NATIONAL  
MILITARY PARK COMMISSION.**

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REPORT  
OF THE  
SHILOH NATIONAL MILITARY PARK COMMISSION.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
SHILOH NATIONAL MILITARY PARK COMMISSION,  
*Pittsburg Landing, Tenn., August 30, 1902.*

SIR: The Shiloh National Military Park Commission has the honor to submit its report for the year ending August 30, 1902.

ROADS.

The Purdy road has been extended 250 yards, beginning at the point where it crosses the main Corinth road and running west to the intersection of the road leading north toward the Jones field.

A road has been built leading from the main Corinth road at a point a little east of the intersection of the eastern Corinth road, and running in an easterly direction with what is called the Brown's Ferry road, to its intersection with the Savannah road near General Hurlbut's headquarters. This road is 361 yards long.

Another road, 1,357 yards long, has been built. It starts at the "Two Cabins" (Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston's headquarters) on the main Corinth road and runs in a northeasterly direction, passing the old Seay field and O. H. P. Cantrell's house, to its intersection with the Prentiss road just in front of the Twenty-first Missouri camp.

These three roads bring up the total mileage of roads in the park to 22.98 miles.

During the winter of 1901-2 very trying weather visited this section. A rain, gradually changing into slushy snow, followed by a frost, then a thaw, and this repeated four or five times in quick succession, caused the surfaces of our roads to break under the heavy hauling of ties and lumber. It was necessary to order all heavy traffic suspended; the order was given and carried out, but still the roads were so badly injured by the severe weather and traffic that one foreman, with a squad of ten to twelve laborers, was kept several weeks repairing the damages. During this period the water courses on each side of each head wall were well paved with such conglomerate rock as can be obtained on the park. We have built rock dams at intervals of about 25 feet across the deep gully along the road leading to the landing. Similar dams were thrown across the deep gullies along the main Corinth road near Duncan's, and along the Glover road. These dams have caught the débris washed down by the rains, and, as a consequence, these gullies are rapidly filling up.

On March 28, 1902, we had the heaviest rain that has visited this section for years. From 7 a. m. to 4 p. m. 5.42 inches fell. Every ravine became a torrent. Shiloh Branch swelled out of its banks and reached from "hill to hill." A number of washouts occurred, but fortunately all were small. The road and bridges over Shiloh Branch held and were not damaged at all. It was only those places where very small fills had been made that were injured. There is no remedy for this, because the surface of the ground must not be marred by larger fills and deeper cuts. It may be many years before such a rainfall visits the park again. All the damage done has been repaired.

The head walls have all been completed, except on the new roads built this year, and these will be put in as soon as possible. Our last report shows that 183 head walls had been constructed; now 320 are in, 137 having been constructed during the year.

About 4 miles of road are yet to be built.

#### CUTTING UNDERBRUSH, ETC.

At the time of our last report we were engaged in cutting the sprouts which had grown up where the land had been cleared of undergrowth. This work was continued until the entire area cleared up at that time had been gone over. In this way 2,500 acres were sprouted during the present year. About 350 acres have been cleared of underbrush during the year, in addition to 2,500 acres of last year's sprouts and 500 acres of the current year's sprouts.

#### TREES.

Some of the young trees planted last year to define the boundaries of the old fields died. These were replaced by others during the past year. In addition, young trees were planted in the open ground around the landing. In all, about 300 trees have been set out this year and are growing vigorously.

A variety of nuts and acorns were planted in some of the fields, still under fence, that have been cleared since the war. These have come up very well and have received attention during the year by cutting the weeds and hoeing the ground around them.

#### MONUMENTS.

On March 3, 1902, the monuments for the State of Ohio reached here on barges. By April 3 all were in place except the monument for the Eighty-first Ohio Regiment, which still lies at the landing, awaiting the adjustment of its location.

These monuments are made of faultless granite, have been cut with great care and accuracy, and have been erected in a masterly way.

The foundations for the Indiana monuments—twenty-one in all—have been put in. They are made of concrete, similar to those of Illinois and Ohio, but are larger, being 8 feet 1 inch by 8 feet 1 inch square. A few of these monuments have arrived and the contractors are now setting them up.

On July 14, 1902, work was commenced on the foundation for the Iowa State monument. This foundation is large, being 34 feet square, and is now completed.

The work on the foundations for the eleven Iowa regimental monuments, the Illinois State monument, and the Illinois cavalry monument is now going on.

The cost of the foundations for the thirty-four Ohio regimental monuments was \$390. The foundations for the twenty-one Indiana regimental monuments cost \$567 in each case, 14 cents per cubic foot. The foundation for the Iowa State monument cost \$1,013.83, or 17½ cents per cubic foot.

The regimental foundations are made of concrete, using partly Louisville and partly American Portland cement. In the Iowa State monument foundation American Portland cement only is used.

#### MORTUARY MONUMENTS.

Five mortuary monuments, of the design made by our engineer and approved by the Department, have been erected during the past year. These mark the spots where W. H. L. Wallace, Julius Raith, and Everett Peabody, commanders of the Union Army, and Albert Sidney Johnson and Adley H. Gladden, commanders of the Confederate Army, were killed, or mortally wounded. A square concrete base 18 feet 6 inches by 18 feet 6 inches supports a 30-pounder Parrott rifle, and also has a square pyramid of 8-inch shells at each corner, the guns and shells resting on subsidiary bases. A bronze tablet, molded to fit the gun at its trunnions, bears the inscription for each monument. The cost of these monuments, including the bronze tablets, was \$250 each.

#### DIVISION HEADQUARTERS MONUMENTS.

There have also been erected three division headquarters monuments, one for McClernand's, one for Sherman's, and one for W. H. L. Wallace's headquarters. These have a concrete base, on top of which is a pyramid of 8-inch shells, the whole reaching to a height of about 10 feet. The cost of these was \$200 each, not including the shells or tablets, which will designate what each one is.

#### TABLETS.

At the time of our last report 3 sets of historical tablets, 75 camp tablets, 87 road signs, and 199 "first day" position tablets had been received, and most of them erected. Since then all have been erected, except on spots where the United States does not yet own the land. About 150 more historical tablets for the second day are being cast.

#### GUN CARRIAGES.

At the time of our last report 26 gun carriages had been received and put in position. During the current year 124 have been received. All have been painted, and we are now placing them in position.

A contract has been entered into for 77 additional carriages, which, when received, will enable us to complete the marking of artillery positions upon the field.

## MAPS.

We have prepared during the year many blue prints of the first and second day's fight for distribution.

A map and tracing showing the ground of Gen. Lew Wallace's march and the second day's fight were made, and several blue prints struck and colored.

## LAND.

Negotiations for the purchase of several pieces of land have been made and will be submitted for your approval. It was necessary to prepare tracings, descriptions, and abstracts for these various tracts, and this has been done.

## BUILDINGS AND QUARTERS.

Nothing has been done on this score during the year, except a few necessary repairs to old houses already standing.

## DEDICATION.

On the 6th day of June, 1902, the State of Ohio dedicated their 34 monuments with suitable ceremonies. They were transferred by the governor of the State to the United States and, under your instructions dated May 26, 1902, were received by me on behalf of the Government.

## EXPENDITURES.

The expenditures since last report are as follows:

Salaries.....	\$12,000.00
Traveling expenses.....	420.28
Office expenses.....	1,463.17
Topography and maps.....	2,852.85
Engineering superintendence.....	3,386.07
Buildings and quarters.....	737.67
Clearing land.....	7,738.14
Roads and bridges.....	7,446.43
Monuments and markers.....	1,860.33
Cannon and gun carriages.....	10,152.17
Tablets and guide posts.....	521.86
Foundations for State monuments.....	1,970.83
Watchmen and guards.....	859.00
Total.....	51,408.90

The balance to the credit of the commission on this date is \$74,101.56.

Photographs of the mortuary and the division headquarters monuments accompany this report.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CORNELIUS CADLE, *Chairman.*

The SECRETARY OF WAR,  
Washington, D. C.

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**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VICKSBURG NATIONAL  
MILITARY PARK COMMISSION.**

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# REPORT

OF THE

## COMMISSIONERS OF THE VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK.

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VICKSBURG, MISS., *July 5, 1902.*

SIR: The commissioners of the Vicksburg National Military Park have the honor to submit their fourth annual report, for the year ending June 30, 1902.

One formal meeting for business and three informal conferences have been held during the year, at each of which all the commissioners were present.

Treasury checks in payment of land conveyed for the park have been received and delivered to five separate grantors, thereby completing payment for all the land in the park, the purchase of which has been authorized by the honorable Secretary of War.

The park area as outlined in the second annual report, and as later increased by the addition of the small Henry L. Mayer tract, has now been conveyed to the United States, and payment therefor made to the respective grantors, with the exception of the Sarah J. Mosby tract. The purchase of this tract is necessary for the satisfactory completion of the park area; and the topographical survey brought to light the fact that about two acres additional to the amount theretofore included in that proposed purchase are needed to include two Union battery redoubts, mounting one and two guns respectively. The positions of these two redoubts are indicated by the letters A and B in red on the print of sheet No. 6, topographical survey of the Vicksburg National Military Park, transmitted to the department with this report. It is also probable that an additional acre of land, or thereabouts, should be purchased and added to the north Federal wing at the point marked C in red on print of sheet No. 1 of said topographical survey, also transmitted with this report.

At the date of the last (third) annual report the commissioners expected that construction work on the inside park roadway (Confederate avenue) would soon be commenced. That expectation was disappointed, and the work has been much delayed. A contract has now been signed with Robert Nicholson for grading the first section of that avenue, on the terms of his bid opened in the office of the commission May 1, 1901, and in accordance with the specifications prepared by the park engineer after the resurvey and relocation of the avenue. By the terms of this contract Mr. Nicholson will complete the grading of that section on or before September 1, 1902.

Proposals for the completion as an earth road of the second section of Confederate avenue were opened in the office of the commission July 2, 1902. But two proposals for the work were received, and as the price named in each seemed higher than the conditions of the work warrant, the proposals were transmitted to the Department with a recommendation that both be rejected, and that proposals be invited for the completion as an earth road of sections 2 and 3 combined, being the whole of that avenue except the first section. The circular letter inviting proposals for that work can be sent from the office immediately after receiving the approval of the Department, and can be sent to over 100 contractors and contracting firms engaged in that kind of work.

A circular letter inviting proposals for the erection of three metallic viaducts on Confederate avenue were sent from the office July 3, 1902, to 33 contractors and contracting firms engaged in that kind of work.

Proposals for the restoration of the "Shirley House" were opened in the office of the commission June 21, 1902. Seven proposals for the work were received and forwarded to the Department, with the recommendation that the proposal of Mr. C. E. Mackey, being the lowest, be accepted, provided he can make an acceptable bond for the completion of the work. The recommendation was approved by the Department, and the contract with Mr. Mackey for the work will be signed and forwarded when he makes the required bond.

The topographical survey of the park, executed by Mr. E. E. Betts, park engineer, by direction of the honorable Secretary of War, was approved March 22, 1902.

During the year \$3,031.38 have been expended in cutting underbrush on the park area, and 736 acres have been cleared. The allotment authorized for that work during the present fiscal year will complete the clearing of the park area, and will also permit a second cutting of undergrowth on a part of that area.

The work of locating Union avenue will soon be commenced by the park engineer, and the alignment and profile of that avenue will be forwarded to the Department as soon as possible. The commissioners earnestly desire and expect that the work of road construction will go forward rapidly during the present fiscal year.

The governor of Mississippi, by proclamation dated January 25, 1902, ceded jurisdiction to the United States over four tracts of land (aggregating 9.62 acres), thereby completing the jurisdiction of the United States over all the land purchased and conveyed for the park.

Since the date of the last annual report State commissions from Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin, Texas, and Illinois have visited the park to cooperate with the commissioners in locating the positions of their respective regiments and batteries on the lines of investment and defense. Liberal appropriations for State monuments on the park have been made by the legislatures of New York, Ohio, and Iowa.

The commissioners respectfully submit the following estimate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904: For continuing the work of establishing the Vicksburg National Military Park; for the compensation of three civilian commissioners and the secretary and historian; for clerical and other services, labor, iron gun carriages, the mounting of siege guns, monuments and historical tablets, maps, surveys, roads, bridges, restoration of earthworks, purchase and transportation of supplies and material—these and other necessary expenses, \$50,000.

The receipts and expenditures during the year were as follows:

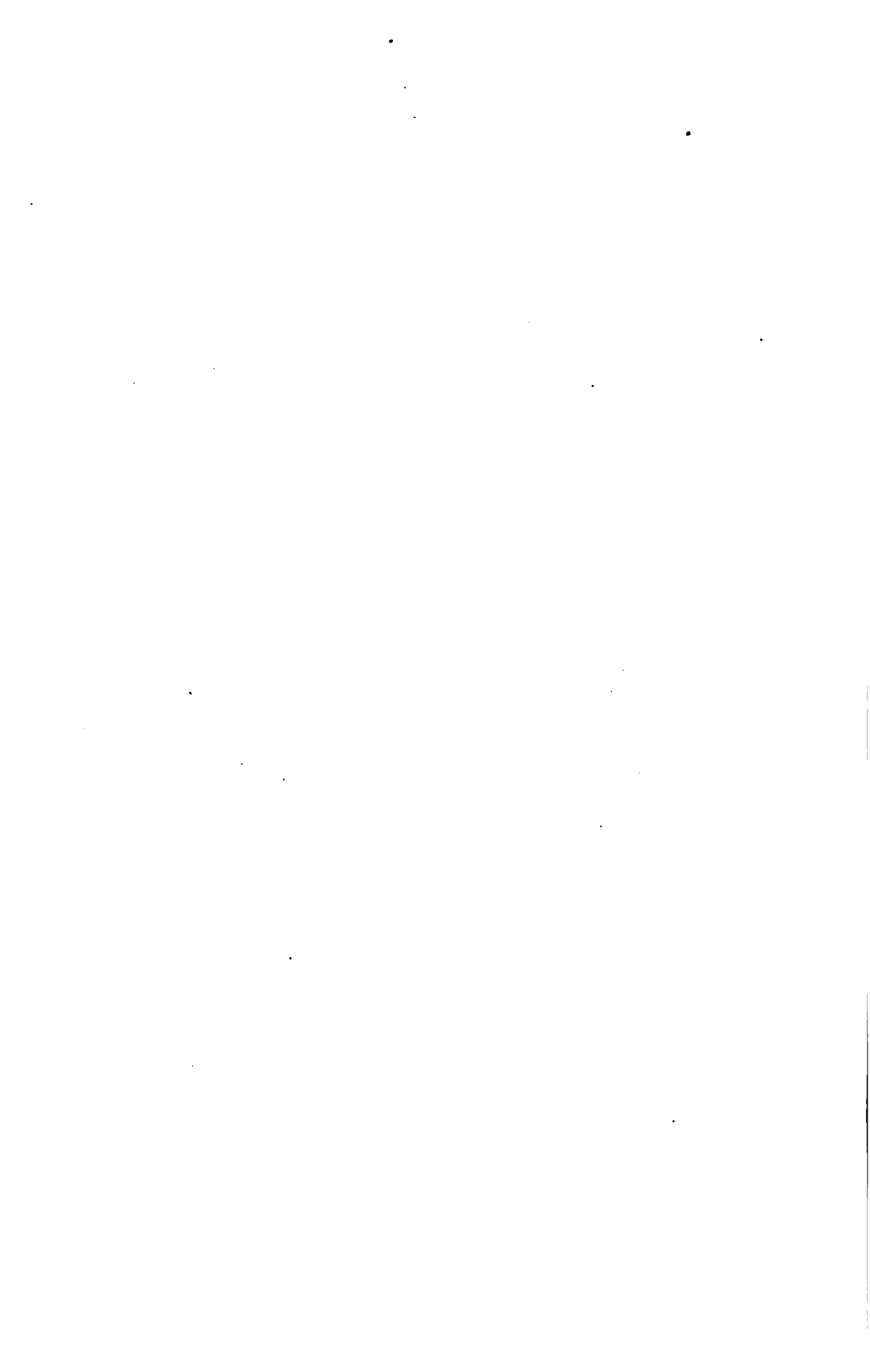
Balance on hand June 30, 1901, per third annual report .....	\$32,670.20
Appropriation for fiscal year ending June 30, 1902 .....	100,000.00

## EXPENDITURES.

Salaries:		
Commissioners and secretary and historian only .....	\$14,400.00	
Traveling expenses:		
Commissioners and secretary and historian .....	\$348.32	
Authorized visitors .....	129.00	
		477.32
Office expenses:		
Clerk and messenger .....	1,848.66	
Typewriting .....	590.00	
Stationery and office supplies .....	219.63	
Horses and vehicles .....	213.00	
Fuel and lights .....	121.67	
Telephone and telegraph service .....	75.18	
Furniture and fixtures .....	50.25	
Ice and toilet supplies .....	27.25	
Miscellaneous .....	2.15	
		3,147.79
Land and conveyancing:		
Purchase of 5 tracts (16.92 acres) .....	439.50	
Preparing title papers, etc .....	275.00	
L. B. Moseley, guardian ad litem .....	25.00	
Recording, etc .....	16.00	
		755.50
Topography and maps:		
Engineer and force .....	5,484.09	
Instruments and supplies .....	381.08	
Travel expenses, engineer .....	216.30	
Horses and vehicles .....	163.65	
Furniture and fixtures .....	16.00	
Telegraph services, etc .....	6.68	
		6,267.80
Buildings and quarters:		
Rent of office building .....	720.00	
Repair to waterworks .....	25.85	
		745.85
Clearing land:		
Foreman and laborers .....	3,020.53	
Tools and supplies .....	10.85	
		3,030.38
Roads and bridges:		
Engineer and force .....	2,915.58	
Horses and vehicles .....	261.90	
Instruments and supplies .....	215.96	
Travel expenses, engineer .....	90.25	
		3,483.69
Monuments and markers:		
Printing 2,000 copies "Record" .....	664.96	
Iron pipes for marking locations .....	25.00	
		689.96
Total expenditures .....	32,999.29	
Balance on hand June 30, 1902 .....	99,670.91	
		132,670.20

WM. T. RIGBY,  
STEPHEN D. LEE,  
JAMES G. EVEREST,  
*Commissioners.*

The SECRETARY OF WAR.



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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED  
STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

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# REPORT

## OF THE

### BOARD OF VISITORS TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

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*To the Secretary of War, the President of the Senate,  
and the Speaker of the House of Representatives :*

In accordance with the statute, the following report of the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy at West Point is herewith submitted:

The Board of Visitors appointed under sections 1327, 1328, 1329, Revised Statutes of the United States, to "attend the annual examinations at the United States Military Academy and to inquire into the actual state of discipline, instruction, police administration, fiscal affairs, and other concerns of the institution, and to report the same to the Secretary of War for the information of Congress," and also "to report to the Vice-President of the United States" and "to the Speaker of the House of Representatives," has the honor to report as follows:

#### BOARD OF VISITORS, JUNE, 1902.

##### APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Gen. CHARLES F. ROE .....	New York City.
Prof. WILLIAM R. HARPER .....	Chicago, Ill.
Hon. A. C. HOWZE .....	Birmingham, Ala.
Gen. ELL TORRANCE .....	Minneapolis, Minn.
Maj. RICHARD W. YOUNG .....	Salt Lake City, Utah.
Mr. MONTGOMERY SCHUYLER .....	New York City.
Mr. GEORGE W. CHILDS DREXEL .....	Philadelphia, Pa.

##### APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE.

Hon. J. V. QUARLES .....	Milwaukee, Wis.
Hon. EDMUND W. PETTUS .....	Selma, Ala.

##### APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Hon. CHARLES DICK .....	Akron, Ohio.
Hon. F. H. GILLET .....	Springfield, Mass.
Hon. WILLIAM SULZER .....	New York City.

The board met at the West Point Hotel, West Point, N. Y., on Monday, June 2, 1902, and organized by electing Gen. Charles F. Roe president, Gen. Edmund W. Pettus vice-president, and Mr. George W. Childs Drexel secretary.

By the unanimous vote of the board, Gen. Charles Dick, member of Congress, was selected to make the address to the graduating class at the graduating ceremonies on the morning of June 12.

The board having notified the Superintendent of the Academy, Colonel Mills, of its organization, the following communication was received in reply, and the programme of the examination submitted:

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,  
West Point, June 2, 1902.

Gen. CHARLES F. ROE,

*President Board of Visitors, West Point, N. Y.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this date, notifying me of the organization of the Board of Visitors.

I shall be happy to afford the board every facility for a thorough inspection of the workings of all the departments of the institution, administrative as well as academic, and in general to do everything possible to assist the board in its labors.

A programme of the examination has already been furnished each member. Under the authority of the honorable Secretary of War examinations this year were begun on May 29, instead of June 1, as usual. Notice will be given from day to day of such military exercises as are ordered for the Board of Visitors.

Capt. Fred W. Sladen, Fourteenth Infantry; Capt. Edward Anderson, Seventh Cavalry; Capt. Gordon G. Heiner, Artillery Corps, and First Lieut. George T. Summerlin, Fourth Cavalry, have been detailed to attend upon the Board of Visitors during their stay at the Academy.

I hope the board will communicate with me freely, both personally and officially, upon any subject connected with the Military Academy which may be of interest to its members in connection with their official visit to West Point.

I desire to call officially upon the Board of Visitors at the hotel at 4.20 o'clock p. m. to-day, with the members of the academic board and associate professor, the chaplain, and my military staff, to pay our respects to the Board of Visitors and to conduct them to a review of the corps of cadets given in their honor.

At the close of the review it will give me pleasure to receive the members of the board, their families, and friends, at my quarters, to meet the officers and ladies of the post and prominent citizens residing in this vicinity.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,  
*Colonel, United States Army, Superintendent.*

The army officers referred to in Colonel Mill's letter above quoted were then introduced to the members of the board by General Roe.

The grouping of the subjects to fall within the compass of the deliberations and investigations of the various committees having been discussed, the following memorandum of their arrangement was suggested by the chair and adopted:

Committee No. 1, increase of plant, and on buildings, grounds, and hygiene.

Committee No. 2, examinations, instruction, discipline, and athletics.

Committee No. 3, armament and equipment.

Committee No. 4, fiscal affairs, supplies, and expenditures.

"The future of the Academy" to come under the discussion of the board as a whole.

The chair then made up the committees as follows:

*Examinations, instruction, discipline, and athletics.*—Prof. W. R. Harper, Maj. R. W. Young, Mr. Montgomery Schuyler, Hon. A. C. Howze.

*Armament and equipment.*—Gen. Ell Torrence, Hon. Charles Dick, Gen. Charles F. Roe.

*Increase of the plant and also on buildings, grounds, and hygiene.*—Mr. Montgomery Schuyler, Hon. E. W. Pettus, Hon. F. H. Gillett, Hon. William Sulzer, Hon. Charles Dick.



*Fiscal affairs, supplies, and expenditures.*—Hon. J. V. Quarles, Mr. Geo. W. Childs Drexel, Hon. F. H. Gillett, Hon. William Sulzer, Hon. A. C. Howze.

The board then proceeded to the discharge of its duties, attending the examination of the different classes, inspecting the buildings devoted to the use of the institution, witnessing the drills and evolutions in the several arms of the service—infantry, cavalry, and artillery—and the practical exercises in engineering.

The chair read the following letters which had been delivered to the board:

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,  
West Point, N. Y., June 3, 1902.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS,  
West Point, N. Y.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following for the consideration of the Board of Visitors:

The Military Academy has as a part of its equipment an excellent astronomical observatory, fitted with very valuable scientific instruments sufficient for much scientific research. The instruments referred to consist of one equatorial, one transit circle, one photographic telescope, one prime vertical instrument, and one spectrometer, all large and well mounted.

The observatory is under the immediate supervision of the professor of natural and experimental philosophy, and to assist him in its management until the present time a line officer of the Army has been detailed for this special purpose. This policy has worked fairly well in the instruction of cadets, but as the assistant referred to is not permanently detailed, the policy is one which has necessarily failed to give the return to science and to the Academy that should be had from such a powerful and valuable equipment as the one named.

In the opinion of the professor of philosophy, in which I concur, the permanent detail of an army officer at the observatory is not desirable. In order, however, that the latter may make the return it is capable of doing, I respectfully suggest to the Board of Visitors the advisability of considering the wisdom of employing a civilian, as astronomer in the observatory of the United States Military Academy, and, if the board approve the project, I would suggest that such a recommendation be embodied in its report.

From inquiries made, I believe a competent civilian could be employed at a salary of \$2,000 per year and quarters, and he would be of great assistance to the professor of philosophy in the course of practical astronomy, which cadets are required to take. In addition to this work, he could take up a series of astronomical observations in some field of pure science, and by prosecuting them diligently, secure valuable data for a regular series of publications from the observatory. In this way, and in this way only, can this very valuable equipment be made to give the return the country and science should have from it. I believe this return will fully justify the additional expense it will entail.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,  
Colonel, United States Army, Superintendent.

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,  
West Point, N. Y., June 3, 1902.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS,  
West Point, N. Y.

SIR: In 1882 the department of modern languages of the Military Academy was organized, to include within its scope a chair of French, one of Spanish, and one of English, with a single professor to fill them all. Prior to that date the chairs of Spanish and French had been filled by different professors.

From consideration of administration, of the relation of these courses to the others of the curriculum, and of the necessary correlation between the courses themselves, the present organization of the department of modern languages is, I believe, still much superior to the old, an opinion which is concurred in by all the members of

the academic board who have individually submitted to me their statements on this point. The work of the department, however, has increased since its organization, and now, consequent upon changes in the curriculum, is still more increased.

At its last session Congress very wisely freed the Military Academy from the long-existing restraint of an entrance examination fixed by statute, by placing the entrance requirements for the future under the control of the Secretary of War. Following this action a very much needed revision of the Academy's curriculum has been made and has been submitted for approval to the War Department. Among the changes secured is a desirable increase in the course of English, and on account of the country's newly acquired foreign possessions a more extended course in Spanish has been provided. These extensions, together with the considerable increase in the strength of the corps of cadets since 1882, institute conditions greatly increasing the demands on the professor of modern languages and necessitate measures being taken to afford him relief. A fuller appreciation of the matter will be obtained by a consideration of the following:

Course in English 232 hours, from September 1 to June 1; course in Spanish 296 hours, from January 1 to June 1; course in French 436 hours, from September 1 to June 1; number of cadets to be instructed daily, 248.

I believe the proper administration of the department, together with personal supervision of instruction in the mother and two foreign tongues, is beyond the power of one man, and I am of the opinion that to secure the efficiency desired the professor should have associated with him an assistant, to be known as the associate professor of modern languages, who could give personal supervision to instruction in either Spanish or French under the general direction of the professor. Such an assistant will in no way affect the present organization of the academic board, but it will give the personnel necessary to the efficient interior administration of this department of instruction.

The following important and necessary changes would be accomplished by the proposed addition:

1. The administrative head of the department of modern languages would have to give personal attention to instruction in only one foreign tongue, and yet there would be the necessary correlation between the different subjects of the department by virtue of their being under one administrative head.

2. The associate professor would be of much assistance in carrying out the administrative details within the department and would supervise the instruction of cadets in one foreign language.

The matter is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Board of Visitors, and if approved by the board it is requested that the board recommend in its report that provision be made for an associate professor of modern languages, to be regularly detailed from the Army, and to have while so serving the pay and allowances of a major. The increased pay recommended should be given in order to make the position an attractive one and because the officer selected for it would fill a higher position than the assistant professors in the department who, under the law, have the pay of captains mounted.

I do not believe the appointment of an officer permanently as associate professor of the department would operate for the best interests of the Military Academy.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,  
*Colonel United States Army, Superintendent.*

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,  
*West Point, N. Y., June 6, 1902.*

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS,  
*West Point, N. Y.*

SIR: In reply to your inquiry of this date, I have the honor to report that the equipment of the Military Academy for the practical instruction of cadets in their duties is complete with the exception of a model seacoast battery mounting the latest types of ordnance and completely equipped with all the needful appliances for thorough instruction.

Such a model battery should comprise one 8-inch B. L. R. on a disappearing carriage, one 8-inch B. L. R. on nondisappearing carriage, one 6-inch R. F. gun on pedestal mount, one 15-pounder R. F. gun on balance pillar mount, and one 12-inch B. L. mortar on spring return carriage, the whole to constitute a single continuous battery occupying approximately the site of the present siege battery.

The emplacements for this model battery should be complete in all details, with the latest appliances for serving the guns and with a complete light and power plant as follows:

Emplacements for two 8-inch B. L. R. with single magazine and separate ammunition service; emplacement for one 6-inch R. F. gun with magazine; emplacement for one 15-pounder R. F. gun with magazine; emplacement for one 12-inch B. L. mortar with magazine; one fire commander and two battery commanders' stations; electric generating plant; electric storage battery, one 30-inch electric controlled searchlight.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,  
*Colonel United States Army, Superintendent.*

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,  
*West Point, N. Y., June 4, 1902.*

The PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS,  
*West Point, N. Y.*

SIR: In compliance with the request of a member of the board, I have the honor to inclose herewith a tabular statement of the appropriations made by Congress for maintaining the Military Academy during the past ten years; also the total amount of appropriations for buildings during the past fifty years. When this memorandum has served its purpose, I beg to request that it be returned to me.

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,  
*Colonel United States Army, Superintendent.*

Upon invitation Colonel Mills, Superintendent of the Military Academy, appeared before the board and gave in detail his views concerning the matters presented for discussion, namely, the conditions connected with the entrance examination, the recent additions to the curriculum, the advisability of a regularly established preparatory school, the precedence given to the various departments of study in the grading of the cadets, the percentage of those appointed who qualify and graduate, and the existing method of teaching the languages, etc.

The following members of the academic board also appeared before the board upon invitation and gave their views and explanations upon matters brought to their attention: Professor Edgerton, Professor Fieberger, Professor Wood, Professor Tillman, Professor Larned, and Professor Gordon; also Captain Franklin, treasurer, who explained the workings of the treasury department of the Academy and the manner of making charges to the cadets on their individual accounts.

Believing that a more practical result would be attained by acting as a homogeneous body—all the members contributing through their several committees their individual share of observations on the condition of the institution and their views upon its management, the whole to be embodied in one report—it was decided to prepare the report in this manner and so present it.

The board is of the opinion that the enlargement of the entrance requirements accomplished under the recent Act of Congress should be commended.

That the acceptance of certificates of graduation from high schools and normal schools, and of candidates having a college standing without conditions, and duly certified examination papers of candidates on competitive examination, should be commended, with the reservation, however, that certificates of graduation from high schools and normal colleges should be accepted only where the institution issuing the certificate has an accredited standing, a policy which has been adopted by most of the leading universities.

That inasmuch as the several States and Territories are now quite generally supplied with high schools and colleges, and inasmuch as West Point is a technical institution of the military art and science, the entrance requirements should be enlarged from time to time as rapidly and extensively as practicable, with the purpose of permitting an extension in instruction on purely military subjects and of lessening the strain which now exists owing to the large amount of elementary teaching crowded into the four-years' course.

The board is not prepared to favor the suggestion that a fifth year should be added to the course, or that a preparatory school should be located in the vicinity of West Point, having a one year's course.

The board favors a change in the law, under which the number of cadets shall be substantially increased.

The board commends most heartily the results of the method employed at the Academy in dividing the classes into small sections for purposes of instruction.

The board approves the changes that have been made in some of the departments of the Academy, under which written examinations are substituted in whole or in part for the system of oral examinations formerly prevailing.

The board approves either of the separation of the department of modern languages into two departments, one of which shall have either Spanish and English or French and English, and the other the Spanish or French separately; or, as an alternative, the modification of the law permitting the detail of an officer as associate professor of modern languages, with the temporary rank and pay of a major, whose duty it shall be to assist the professor of that department; also, that no officer be required to teach more than one foreign language. Furthermore, that officers to be detailed to teach either Spanish or French be ordered abroad for the purpose of familiarizing themselves thoroughly with the language they are to teach at least one year prior to their detail to the Academy, and should be ordered to visit French and Spanish-speaking countries respectively during their vacations.

The board approves of the recommendation contained in the report of the board of visitors of 1901, as follows:

"While in the Academy the cadet should have time and opportunity for the study of general history, military history, military ethics, military hygiene, and English literature. He should also have an opportunity to pursue the oral study of modern languages. The United States is now a world power, and its Army and Navy officers will find themselves in countries where languages other than English are spoken. There is, therefore, an increasing necessity for an acquaintance with modern languages. By this we do not mean a class-room acquaintance, nor a stuttering, stammering acquaintance, but a practical acquaintance that would enable a West Point graduate to make himself understood in any of these modern tongues without subjecting himself to ridicule."

The board approves the recommendation of the Superintendent that a civilian be employed as an astronomer, at a salary not exceeding \$2,000 per annum, who shall have charge of the observatory under the professor of natural and experimental philosophy, and shall assist as instructor in that department.

It is the opinion of the board that the professors and instructors of the Military Academy should visit, under orders, other institutions of

learning, and that they should in other ways bring the Academy into closer relations with the general educational system of the country.

The board views with approval the fact that the heads of the departments and the instructors are striving to place themselves in closer touch with the cadets, to the end that the latter feel less restraint in calling upon the former for necessary assistance.

The board commends the change in the policy of the institution under which the cadets have enlarged social privileges, and under which they are brought into closer relationship with students of other institutions in athletic sports, and recommends that this policy be enlarged to the greatest extent consistent with discipline and instruction, to the end that the education of the cadet be not merely technical, but extend to those relationships in life which must ever be important.

The board also approves the recommendation of Colonel Mills that Congress appropriate for a course of lectures to form a feature of the year's course.

The board recommends that each member of Congress should always appoint a principal and a first and second alternate, in order that the number of cadets at the Academy may be kept at its maximum.

Also that the pay of the cadet be made the same as that of a naval cadet, namely, \$69.

The board finds that armament and equipment, as furnished by the Government, is most excellent, but that a modern seacoast battery is requisite for the proper instruction of cadets, and therefore recommends that a model seacoast battery, complete in all its details, be furnished as follows:

Emplacement for two 8-inch B. L. R., with single magazine and separate ammunition service; emplacement for one 6-inch R. F. gun, with magazine; emplacement for one 15-pdr. R. F. gun, with magazine; emplacement for one 12-inch B. L. mortar, with magazine; one fire commander and two battery commanders' stations; electric generating plant; electric storage battery; one 30-inch electric-controlled searchlight.

The board was struck with the fact that the cavalry and artillery horses had the double reins and the curb and snaffle bit, and highly commend the same. The board noticed that the caps, blouses, and various parts of the military dress of officers do not appear to be uniform in appearance: For instance, caps have various kinds of visors, some stiff tops and some soft; blouses and dress coats have collars of extreme width or narrowness. As the professors and officers are a constant example to the cadets, there should be only one kind of uniform cap, and the same with other parts of the uniform. The board are of the opinion that steps should be taken to remedy this fault.

It is the opinion of the board that everything pertaining to the plant and curriculum of the Military Academy as such should be in the control of the academic board as constructed, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War. That all matters pertaining to any change in buildings, site, and general topography of West Point should be acted upon by a committee of not less than three members of the academic board selected by the superintendent, which committee shall consider and report to the whole board; this report to be acted upon by the whole academic board, and such action to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

The matter is of such importance to the country at large that the board are firmly convinced that the subject should be under the positive control of the academic board.

The academic board consists of eleven members, six of whom are permanent professors; three are detailed as professors for four years, and the other two are the superintendent of the Military Academy and the commandant of cadets. Thus we would have the conservative action of six men and the action of five new men, who change every four years.

This opinion of the board is not intended in any way as a reflection on the present superintendent, as the board are pleased to commend the policy which he has followed in locating buildings and making other improvements, by seeking to attain the best results in referring such matters for report and recommendations to advisory boards, composed of the members of the academic board.

The board is of the opinion that any change in the site of the hotel should not be made without the most careful consideration, as it is important that the parents of cadets and official visitors should come into close contact with the cadets and be in the immediate seeing distance of various military exercises.

An examination of the fiscal affairs, supplies, and expenditures showed them to be perfectly satisfactory.

The board recommends that an edition of 6,000 of the jubilee volume of the centennial history of the Academy should be printed at the Government Printing Office for distribution and for exchange.

Your board can not conclude its report without expressing the increasing sense which its observation upon the spot force upon it of the high character of the instruction and the discipline imparted at the Military Academy, and of the inestimable value of the institution to the nation.

CHAS. F. ROE,

*President.*

EDMUND W. PETTUS,

*Vice-President.*

GEORGE W. CHILDS DREXEL,

*Secretary.*

WILLIAM R. HARPER.

A. C. HOUZE.

ELL TORRANCE.

RICHARD M. YOUNG.

MONTGOMERY SCHUYLER.

J. V. QUARLES.

CHARLES DICK.

F. H. GILLET.

WEST POINT, N. Y., *June 11, 1902.*

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**SUPERINTENDENT OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY  
ACADEMY.**

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# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE

### SUPERINTENDENT UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY,  
*West Point, N. Y., September 15, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report for the Military Academy for the year ending August 31, 1902:

I have performed the duties of Superintendent throughout the year, except during a leave of absence from August 1 to 13, and for other short periods of time when absent in connection with Academy affairs.

#### PERSONNEL.

The number of officers and instructors assigned to duty here, September 1, 1902, was 7 professors, 1 associate professor, 72 commissioned officers, 1 librarian, 1 chaplain, 1 contract dental surgeon, 1 teacher of music—a total of 84. The total for duty September 1, 1902, was 82. The net increase is the librarian, an office heretofore filled by one of the professors in addition to his regular duties, and one instructor. The only other change to be noted is in the status of the professors, who by act of Congress now have the actual rank formerly assigned them by assimilation, with command limited to the respective academic departments. The change removes a military incongruity of long standing, and is one productive of good. The appended roster<sup>a</sup> gives the names of all officers and shows the particular duties they perform.

#### THE CORPS OF CADETS.

The maximum number of cadets is 492. The academic year opens with 471 cadets on the rolls of the Academy, the largest number ever belonging to it at one time. They are divided between the four classes, as follows: First class, 94; second class, 129; third class, 130; fourth class, 118. Of this number 2 are foreigners, receiving instruction at their own expense under special authority of Congress, 1 being from Costa Rica and 1 from Venezuela. September 1, 1901, there were 464 cadets, including 1 foreigner.

The following changes occurred during the year: Discharged for deficiency in studies, 39; dismissed, 1; resigned, 12; graduated, 54.

According to the new regulations on the subject, the regular examination of candidates for admission was held for the first time this year on May 1 at 16 army posts, selected with a view of reducing to a minimum the expenses of candidates in attending. A special exami-

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<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

nation was also held at West Point on July 25, in order to fill as many vacancies as practicable and make the new class as strong as possible; otherwise, on account of this year's small graduating class, it would have been considerably less in numbers than has been the case in the past three years.

For the examinations in May and July there were appointed 261 candidates, including principals and alternates; 59 failed to report; 3 were rejected, both mentally and physically; and 54 were disqualified mentally. Of those qualified mentally, 88 were accepted upon certificates from high schools, colleges or universities, and competitive examinations; 54 passed the regular examination, and 3 former cadets were examined physically only. Of the 145 candidates qualified mentally, 13 were rejected by medical boards. No vacancies existed for 26 alternates who qualified mentally and physically. As a result of the two examinations, 106 candidates were admitted, including 10 alternates, and these, with 5 former cadets, reappointed with the approval of the academic board, and 7 turned back at the June examination, gave the incoming class a strength of 118.

In connection with entrance examinations the continued enforcement of the rule that candidates are to be examined at the army posts nearest their homes is recommended in order to reduce to a minimum the ills following attendance at preparatory schools adjacent to the Academy.

#### HEALTH.

The health of cadets and the command generally has been good throughout the year. Some apprehension was expressed over the crowded condition of barracks in which, during the past year, it was necessary for cadets of the third and fourth classes to live three in rooms sufficient for but two. This condition can not be avoided until additional barracks are provided. The exercise of due care in compelling proper ventilation and sanitation of the rooms should prevent sickness, but the discomfort of cadets so crowded is considerable. The highest number of admissions to the sick report has been from malarial diseases; injuries and bronchial affections being, respectively, second and third in number. The report of the post surgeon<sup>a</sup> is hereto appended, marked "E," and attention is invited to it.

Successful practical efforts looking to a reduction in the amount of malaria were made during the past summer. In the cadet encampment the floors of tents were permanently raised to permit the free circulation of air below them, and especial attention was given to perfecting the drainage of the camp. The disease has existed at West Point for a long time, though to a less extent the past year than during many former years. The subject of combating it was made the special object of a board of medical officers convened in June last. The report of this board showed the existence in pools, marshes, and seepage spots, and in water barrels, of large numbers of the larvæ of the anopheles mosquito, which is known to transmit malaria, and the board expressed the opinion that the prevalence of the disease was largely due to this mosquito. It is of interest to note that the reservoir and large ponds containing fish were entirely free of the larvæ.

As immediate measures to reduce the pest of mosquitoes all pools and marshy places were frequently oiled during the summer with

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<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

petroleum, and the keeping of water in open barrels was prohibited. Also all marshes wherever practicable were drained and the use of mosquito nets by cadets was ordered, and the barracks of enlisted men were screened. Efforts will be continued to secure the permanent eradication of mosquitoes by draining and filling all ponds and marshes in the vicinity and by conveying water running from springs and reservoirs away underground. Wherever it is found impracticable to do this, oil will be regularly applied. The supervision of the work has been placed in the charge of an officer of the medical department and every assistance will be given him, so that steady and persistent work may be done.

#### PAY AND SUPPLIES OF CADETS.

Two important changes in the pay and allowances of cadets are to be noted. In accordance with recommendations, Congress has placed the military cadet upon an equal pay status with his fellows of the Naval Academy, thus giving the former a welcome annual increase in his pay of \$69.50. This change will go far toward relieving what had become a difficult and embarrassing situation. Of the increase, \$48 has been set aside for the cadet's graduation equipment fund which is thus doubled, and the remainder will be made to cover the necessary expenses attending his social amusements, athletic games, and literary societies. The other change is the Congressional provision that the actual necessary traveling expenses of candidates from their homes to the Military Academy shall be credited to them after admission as cadets. The effect of this is to place cadets from all parts of the country upon an equal footing as regards the expense of entering the Academy, a wise and just policy, and one that is followed in similar matters in the military service.

The food furnished cadets is abundant in quantity, of good quality and variety. In its preparation and serving considerable inconvenience and discomfort are at present entailed by the necessity of using a temporary kitchen, with poor and inadequate facilities, while a new kitchen—a part of the mess hall improvements—is being erected. The cost of messing has increased markedly this year, having averaged 59.3 cents per day per cadet as against 55.5 cents per day the previous year. The cause has been the increased cost of food supplies, especially meat, which since January last has advanced in price from 35 to 50 per cent.\*

The supplies of clothing and other articles provided in the cadet store are ample and of good quality. Cadets are required to exercise greater economy in their purchases from the store by a new rule requiring the officers commanding companies to carefully supervise the requisitions of all cadets.

For the details of the operations of the cadet supply departments attention is invited to the appended report,<sup>a</sup> marked "D," of the treasurer and the quartermaster and commissary of cadets.

#### DISCIPLINE.

The discipline of the corps of cadets has been satisfactory throughout the year. The soldierly appearance of the battalion and its perfection at drill and in military exercises were the subject of much praise and comment on the part of the many distinguished military

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<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

and other visitors, from our own and foreign countries, who attended the centennial exercises in June. The excellent effect of the regulation put in force in 1900 by which the members of each class are divided monthly, according to their demerits for the preceding calendar month, into three conduct grades which determine their privileges for the ensuing month, is shown by the record of the second year's application of the regulation—45 per cent of all cadets were in the first grade, 28 per cent in the second, and 27 per cent in the third.

During the year there has been no relaxation of proper efforts to make permanent the reforms already accomplished bearing on the treatment accorded new cadets by their older comrades. The regulations governing the subject have been carefully enforced, and, with but a single exception that is worthy of note, cadets have shown a soldierly regard for their obligations in the matter. The exception referred to—the first under the new regulations—is that of a cadet who, without authority, made a fourth-class man assume a constrained position and used threatening and abusive language to him. For this offense the cadet was brought to trial by a court-martial, and, being found guilty, was dismissed. No one conversant with the progress new cadets now make apprehends any ill effect in training from the passing of hazing.

#### PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION.

For the scope of this training during the year and its details, attention is invited to the appended reports of the commandant of cadets<sup>a</sup> and the instructor of practical military engineering.<sup>a</sup> An important change has been made in transferring the instruction of the third class in surveying from the department of mathematics to that of practical military engineering. A portion of forty drill days of the past encampment was devoted to the work which is entirely practical. The change has given the most satisfactory results and the members of the class have attained a much better, practical, working knowledge of surveying instruments and of surveying than has been the case in the past.

Owing to the size of the present third class, together with the limited time available for riding instruction during the academic year and the limited size of the present riding hall, spare time during the encampment was utilized again this year to give preliminary instruction in riding to the class. I believe the Academy should now have the services of a civilian instructor in riding and equitation. The desirability of maintaining a high standard in this instruction makes additional assistance necessary, and it is thought more uniform results can be obtained by employing by contract a riding master than by detailing an additional officer from the Army for the duty. The employment of a civilian fencing master is also recommended. This desirable and important instruction, in which cadets are taking great interest, has been given to the present time by the instructor of gymnastics, but the number of cadets is now so great it is impossible for him to give the necessary attention to individual cadets.

I again renew my former recommendation for the installation of a model seacoast battery. In this important instruction the training of cadets is not satisfactory. The only other way it can be given is to take cadets to a nearby seacoast fort, but this is not practicable without breaking in on other important duties.

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<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

## ACADEMIC MATTERS—IMPORTANT CHANGES.

A number of subjects claim attention under this head. In the department of modern languages the importance of giving graduates as great a knowledge of the Spanish language as possible is recognized by a provision giving the cadets of the first class additional instruction in the language until the new curriculum, which commences with the present fourth class, becomes fully effective. In the department of engineering a notable change is one instituted by the honorable Secretary of War, which supplements the instruction the first class receives in the operations of war by permitting it to visit one of the great battlefields of the civil war. In April, the first class, after a previous study of the Gettysburg campaign, spent two days in practical study on that battlefield with much resulting good, as shown in the attached report of the professor of engineering,<sup>a</sup> to which attention is asked. This policy of supplementing the theoretical and historical study of the art of war by a practical study of its principles on one of our famous battlefields is of such incalculable importance in the training of our young officers that I trust it is permanently incorporated into the Military Academy's curriculum.

Consequent upon the action of Congress in freeing the Academy from the long-existing restraint of an entrance examination rigidly fixed by statute, a much desired revision of the curriculum has been made. The new curriculum will be referred to later, and attention here is called only to the principal changes, which consist in increasing the courses of Spanish and English, the introduction of a course of lectures on military hygiene, and the transfer of the course in surveying from the department of mathematics to the department of practical military engineering. These changes have been effected principally by diminishing the time devoted to the subjects of mathematics and French. The theoretical course in philosophy has also been somewhat diminished by transferring part of its time to chemistry and electricity, and by transferring to the academic year the practical instruction in astronomy heretofore given during the summer encampment. In the changes endeavor has been made to assure full and excellent courses in the subjects of Spanish, English, and military hygiene.

## AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LANGUAGES.

The new programme of study entails much additional labor upon the department of modern languages, which under present conditions is already overburdened. In 1882 the department of modern languages was organized, to include a chair of French, one of Spanish, and one of English, with a single professor to fill them all. Prior to that date the chairs of Spanish and French had been filled by different professors. From considerations of administration and of the relation of these courses to the others, and of the necessary correlation between the courses themselves, the present organization of the department is, I believe, much superior to the old—an opinion which is concurred in by all the members of the academic board. It is also the opinion that the relief needed can best be afforded by giving the head of the department a skilled assistant of rank and experience who can take charge of one of the classes and supervise its instruction. As I believe a permanent appointment would not operate for the best interests of the

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<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

Academy, I therefore recommend that the War Department give its approval to a provision in the next Military Academy bill for an associate professor of modern languages, to be regularly detailed from the Army, and to have while so serving the pay and allowances of a major.

The increased pay recommended should be given in order to make the position an attractive one, and because the officer selected for it would fill a higher position than the assistant professors in the department, who under the law have the pay of captains mounted. The proper administration of the department of modern languages, together with personal supervision in the matter of two foreign tongues, is certainly beyond the power of one man, and should not be exacted of him. The assistant recommended would in no way affect the present organization of the academic board, and would only give the personnel necessary to the efficient interior administration of the department. The following changes would be accomplished by the proposed addition: (1) The administrative head of the department would have to give personal attention to instruction in only one foreign tongue, and yet there would be the necessary correlation between the different subjects of the department by virtue of their being under one head; (2) the associate professor could be of great assistance in carrying out details within the department, and would supervise the instruction of cadets in one foreign tongue.

#### ADMISSION OF CANDIDATES ON CERTIFICATE.

The acceptance of certificates of mental preparedness marks a new policy at the Military Academy in connection with the admission of candidates to cadetships. The following is the regulation under which the academic board may accept such certificates in lieu of the regular mental entrance examination:

First. The properly attested examination papers of a candidate who receives his appointment through a public competitive written examination covering the range of subjects prescribed for admission.

Second. The properly attested certificate of graduation from a public high school or a State normal school in which the course of study, together with the requirements for entrance, shall cover the range of prescribed subjects.

Third. A properly attested certificate that the candidate is a regular student of any incorporated college or university, without condition as to any prescribed subject.

The principal object of this regulation is to permit those candidates who at the time of appointment, generally a year prior to date of admission, have satisfactorily covered the subjects required for admission to continue their regular course of study and the proper gradual development of their minds instead of putting them in position where they feel compelled to go back and review elementary work, with consequent expense, loss of time, and, as usually occurs, attendance at some coaching school, with resulting deadening of the reasoning faculties.

Under this provision of regulations there were received from candidates (principals and alternates) for entrance to the present fourth class 114 certificates, of which 51 were from high schools or normal schools, 42 were from colleges, 9 were from both high schools and colleges, 3 were from competitive examinations, and 9 were from private schools or academies (not within the scope of the regulations).

Of the candidates presenting certificates, 88 were considered satisfactory by the academic board, and 62 of these entered the class; 26

were considered unsatisfactory, and 6 of these entered the class on passing the regular mental entrance examination.

These statistics are tabulated below:

Kind of school.	Certificates considered.	Accepted as satisfactory.	Holders of satisfactory certificates entered.	Considered unsatisfactory and not accepted.	Candidates having unsatisfactory certificates who passed regular examinations.
High and normal school .....	51	42	29	9	.....
College .....	42	35	24	7	..... 2
High school and college .....	9	9	8	.....	.....
Competitive examination .....	3	2	1	1	.....
Private school and academy .....	9	.....	.....	9	..... 4
Total .....	114	88	62	26	..... 6

There seemed to be a general effort on the part of principals of schools and presidents of colleges to submit exact facts as to the work and standing of the candidates as required by the forms of certificates adopted, and in only a few instances was there any apparent effort on the part of candidates themselves to secure admission on an insufficient certificate.

Since this method of admission is an entirely new departure, the certificates were examined with great care and the career of those young men who have been admitted on certificates will be carefully watched, with a view to determining as nearly as possible whether satisfactory material is obtained in this way. It is the intention also, in case any cadet so admitted is found deficient in the first six months of his course, to invite the attention of the school or college official to the fact, in the hope that such action will result in a closer touch between the Academy and the general school system of the country, and a certification of only such young men as are preeminently qualified to master the curriculum and become officers of our Army. In this way the Academy will become a greater factor in the educational system of the country than has been the case in the past.

#### THE NEW CURRICULUM.

The present curriculum of the Academy is embraced under ten departments. Each department includes several kindred subjects, so that there are 41 or 42 distinct but related subjects of instruction. The departments and subjects embraced are indicated below:

Departments.	Subjects embraced.
1. Mathematics .....	Algebra, geometry, trigonometry, analytical geometry, descriptive geometry, differential and integral calculus, method of least squares.
2. Natural and experimental philosophy.	Analytical mechanics (solids and fluids), wave motion (acoustics and optics), astronomy (general and practical).
3. Drawing .....	Geometrical, topographical, reconnaissance (field and office work), freehand drawing, technical (architectural, mechanical, professional-military).
4. Chemistry, mineralogy, and geology.	Heat, chemistry, physiology and hygiene, electricity and magnetism, mineralogy, geology.
5. Tactics .....	Drill regulations (theoretical, infantry, artillery, cavalry), practical drills (all arms of service), tactical problems, with field exercises, service of security and information, company and staff administration, guard duty, military and camp police, stable management and care of animals, requirements of field service, customs of service, castrametation, army transportation, packing, etc.

Departments.	Subjects embraced.
6. Modern languages.....	English, French, Spanish.
7. History and law.....	Elementary law, constitutional law, military law, international law, general history (ancient, mediæval, and modern), historical geography.
8. Military and civil engineering.	Civil engineering, military engineering (field and permanent fortifications), art of war, campaigns, etc.
9. Practical military engineering.	Including military signaling, surveying, bridge construction, and over forty different operations.
10. Ordnance and gunnery.....	A general survey of all that science pertaining to military service, with especial consideration to our own service.
11. Course in military hygiene..	

It is seen that each department extends over a wide range, and the grouping of subjects as to departments does not always appear to be that of their natural relations. This has resulted from the necessity, first, of having the time of each department throughout the year fully occupied, so that the course of each department should run throughout the entire year; second, of having the amounts of the different subjects which are taught limited or extended to the best advantage; third, under these two conditions, having the subjects placed in their best relations.

The curriculum of the Academy can not be properly viewed or judged by comparison with other college courses of study, but must be considered in connection with the objects of the Academy and of the conditions under which it operates, which are entirely different from civil institutions and very largely so from other military institutions. The object of the Military Academy is to make officers of the Army, and, of course, to produce as high a type of officer as is possible under the conditions. In the conception of this type it has been assumed that the profession of the officer in this country is likely at any time to be full of responsible work and to need men of power and strong character.

The Academy has accordingly lived and grown and its methods been established under the conviction that the development and training, both of character and mind, in the greatest degree in the cadet should be its object, not less than providing special fitness for the technical and the various practical routine duties of his profession, and of thoroughly inculcating the spirit of subordination and discipline. This end has been sought under the belief that to use the rational faculties to the best advantage is the highest result of youthful education, far higher than the acquisition of information; that mental power is likely to be more useful than simple knowledge; that such power is best acquired by mental effort and in the overcoming of difficulties; that honest application, unhesitating readiness to work, are the only means through which the majority can attain success, and that these should be made familiar habits to every graduate; that training, mental and physical, should accomplish absolute subordination of inclination to effort, and that every specialty, even if purely mechanical, is sooner and better mastered by him who has had the training of hard, concentrated mental effort.

These views have profoundly influenced the methods and curriculum of the Academy, and have shaped the courses to a thorough study of principles, rather than to the attempt at greatest facility in the application of these principles without their thorough study and comprehension. The Military Academy differs widely from other scien-



tific schools, and especially in that its pupils are not being prepared to earn a livelihood from the direct or immediate application of any of the special sciences taught. The Government provides this; but the graduate is expected to acquire a knowledge of the principles of these sciences to which he may add by individual effort, as occasion requires, and be prepared to meet the demands that may be made upon a professional soldier. This education to meet the higher needs of the service should not only instill truths, but should draw out, exercise, and develop the minds, faculties, and forces, and to do this in a manner that inculcates confidence in one's powers and reliance on individual and honest effort, and thus develop character as well as mind; and those students endowed with the requisite aptitude should be so equipped that by proper self-effort they may become originators and developers, and not mere craftsmen in their scientific work and profession.

The records of the graduates of the Academy prove that this theory of teaching has not been deficient in producing character, mental power, and scientific and professional accomplishments. While the potential value of the proper training has always been prominent in the minds of the academic authorities, the ever-recurring necessity and suggestion for present practical professional knowledge, both scientific and strictly military, have not been ignored. This important and necessary function of a young officer's equipment has of late years received far greater consideration than formerly, and every effort has been made to combine to the fullest extent, under the conditions, illustrations and applications of the principles taught along with the study of the principles themselves. In other words, while aiming to retain the highest benefits of the studies as factors in general education, mental development, and character building, a full appreciation is now had of the immense advantage of practical knowledge, and earnest endeavor is made to secure as wide familiarity as possible with the technical and practical bearing of all subjects studied. This idea of making the knowledge itself practical permeates all the departments and is second only to the aim of securing the best training and development.

It will be seen from the list of subjects of study that the instruction given by the departments of tactics and practical military engineering is all military and mainly practical, only a small portion being academic. The instruction of the important department of tactics, which deals most directly with discipline and exerts the greatest influence in implanting in cadets the qualities of officers, is distributed over the entire course of four years, that of the department of practical military engineering over the last three. The instruction of the department of ordnance and gunnery is entirely professional, of the department of military and civil engineering it is mainly so, and of the department of history and law to the greater extent. The work of these three departments is almost entirely academic and confined to the last or fourth year.

The departments of mathematics; natural and experimental philosophy; drawing; chemistry, mineralogy, and geology, and modern languages occupy by far the greater proportion of the academic hours of the cadets during the first three years. The instruction in the department of drawing is in part general, but more largely professional. The department of modern languages may be considered as both general and professional. The department of chemistry, mineralogy, and geology includes some professional study, but it, with the depart-

ments of mathematics and natural and experimental philosophy, may be said to include general scientific instruction, strictly professional only, in the sense that it afterwards becomes the basis of the higher professional work and is of the greatest disciplinary value.

From this outline it will be observed that while the practical military instruction is given during each year of the course, and a small amount of theoretical also, by far the greater proportion of the professional information and that portion requiring serious mental effort to acquire are taken during the fourth year. During the first three years the academic instruction is mainly of a general scientific nature, rather than specially professional. The advantage and necessity for this arrangement are due to two facts: (1) The Academy was called upon to educate the great majority of its pupils both generally and professionally, for the requirements for admission have always been very moderate; (2) the Academy has always attempted what no other school has—to educate scientific soldiers for all branches of the service. It is not probable that either of these requirements can ever be in any large part dispensed with, for the requirements for admission are not likely to be made greatly more stringent and the necessity for preparing the graduates for all branches of the service is even greater now than ever before owing to the method of filling appointments to the staff corps by detail from the line.

The first two years of academic work are mainly devoted to the studies of the departments of mathematics, modern languages, and drawing; the third year to those of the departments of natural and experimental philosophy, chemistry, mineralogy, and geology, and drawing. In these years (first, second, and third) it is the aim to carry the mathematical sciences no further than necessary to insure that all our graduates shall receive a thorough grounding in the principles of the sciences taught, and so that it shall be practicable for all to accomplish such scientific work of the Army as may fall to them, and so that any to whom it may become necessary shall be able by individual effort to add to his knowledge of the subjects without being under the necessity of reconstructing his foundations. In the department of natural and experimental philosophy there are included the elementary principles of mechanics and their applications, together with that general knowledge of light, sound, and astronomy which are deemed essential in all general scientific education.

The method of teaching in both departments is the analytical and is based upon the ideas already set forth, that, in inculcating knowledge, mental training and development of character should be constantly kept in view. Neither of these subjects should be carried any further than absolutely necessary for proper preparation to meet the more technical work of the Army, and under our system some of such work may fall to any graduate. While a certain proportion of the graduates may not readily grasp or thoroughly understand all that is gone over in these departments and may never make practical application of all the formulæ studied, the method of instruction and the requirements demanded accomplish many of the benefits and aims alluded to in stating the objects of our curriculum, and all will have had their reasoning faculties strongly exercised and disciplined and a system and habit of thought acquired which are invaluable in the pursuit of any profession and equally desirable in all officers. Facts can readily be acquired at any time, but discipline and system are acquired

infinitely better at an early age only, and nowhere can they be so well acquired by officers as when they are cadets.

The excellent results of this theory of teaching in ultimately developing and producing distinguished scientific men has produced the impression that the courses of study are unduly extended in these mathematical branches. This impression will be modified by comparing the extent of our curriculum with those of professional schools of to-day most nearly related to the Academy. The impression referred to is a compliment to the method of teaching and not an indication of the extent of the curriculum.

In the department of drawing the entire course is eminently practical and based upon the idea that every graduate should have sufficient knowledge of the graphic art to use it as a vehicle of plan, design, and representation, and be able to read and interpret from the art as exercised by others. In this, as in all other departments, much consideration is given to the possible educational element that may be made to accompany the work, and the faculties of perception (mental and visual), judgment, and memory receive valuable training. By an examination of the detailed programme of this department its important usefulness is readily seen, and that little of it could be judiciously omitted.

In the department of chemistry, mineralogy, and geology the subjects taught, except electricity (which is included in this department), come mainly under the head of elements of general education. Under the divisions of heat and chemistry are given the more fundamental principles of these subjects, together with a great amount of elementary natural science which belongs to all professions and which all men must eventually acquire either by study, observation, or experience. There is also embraced much of that technical information essential to cultured men, which enables them to comprehend most of the ordinary natural phenomena as well as to understand the more important applications of these branches of science in the industrial arts, which are so frequently met with and of which they are often expected or required to know something. The electricity taught is of the highest professional value as well as an element of the general education of the day. The course of mineralogy is entirely practical and of great interest to most of the students, and the knowledge of minerals acquired in this course has given a pleasurable resource to many officers in service.

The short geological course gives a general knowledge of a branch of science most expanding in its influence, and one whose revelations have been so important and astonishing that no general education can be considered complete which ignores it. The mineralogy and geology are the only examples of nonphysical natural science in the entire curriculum and especially valuable for its methods as well as results. It is unnecessary to specify the importance of the study of physiology and hygiene.

The French and Spanish courses embrace, respectively, 200 and 160 section-room periods. The importance of familiarity with these languages, which has greatly increased in the case of Spanish since 1898, has led the academic board to give them the greatest possible extension which seemed consistent with a just regard to the other educational interests of the cadets. The arrangement permits the acquisition of a good translating knowledge of the languages, a good vocabulary and a fair pronunciation, also ability to understand the spoken language to a limited extent.

It is believed that when thoroughly organized under the present arrangement the Spanish course will result in ability to converse in that language in short, simple sentences, and certainly put it in the power of the student to soon acquire this facility to a greater extent by a little additional study and experience. There can be no doubt, however, that the knowledge the graduate has of Spanish would be very greatly increased were this language taught in the first class, or final year, and further efforts should be made to so arrange the different studies as to permit this and to avoid one of the criticisms now made of the curriculum by graduates; that the course in Spanish is completed two years before the graduate is to use his knowledge in practical affairs.

A conversational knowledge of French is more difficult to acquire, and fluency in this accomplishment is seldom, if ever, acquired in a class room. The instruction in French is, however, shaped with the view of giving the pupils the best preparation for further future advancement of their knowledge both in reading or writing and conversation. The attention and amount of time given to these courses, it will be observed, compare very favorably with that allowed by other scientific institutions to the same branches, and in this respect comparison with these institutions can properly be made.

The ability of the graduate to acquire a good speaking knowledge of these languages after leaving the Academy would be increased if the instructors and cadets heard them spoken more in the class room instead of confining the instruction quite so much to blackboard work. With this object in view it is requested that the Secretary of War recommend that Congress make provision for the employment of three assistant instructors in the department of modern languages, to be civilians, natives of the countries where the above languages are spoken—two for the Spanish and one for the French language.

In the department of ordnance and gunnery the instruction is entirely devoted to professional subjects. The course is intended to supply an intelligent general knowledge of the important ordnance developments of the world with especial attention to our own systems and to such details of ordnance material and construction as officers are likely to find useful. The course has 94 section-room periods with from 5 to 12 periods of practical work and experimentation.

The department of engineering is devoted almost entirely to professional subjects, all of which are essential to an officer's equipment; such subjects as are not strictly professional are of such nature that knowledge of them is essential to some, and likely to be so to all graduates. The course has 220 section-room periods.

In the department of law and history the matter relating to the first subject may be considered as entirely professional, though like much other professional material, is a part of a liberal education. The history is taken simultaneously with the law course, and while being itself a most useful part of our curriculum as an element of general education, it is a most valuable accompaniment of the law, showing the origin, civilization, and territorial development of the great States of the world, whose rules of action within their own limits and between themselves constitute national and international law. The course has 184 section-room periods—123 for law, 61 for history.

The departments of tactics and practical military engineering are

entirely professional and concerned with purely military matters. In the latter department all exercises are practical, and in the former much the larger proportion are so. The practical and theoretical instruction in the department of tactics extends over the four years; that of the department of practical military engineering over the last three. The academic work of the department of tactics is partly by oral recitation and partly by lecture and written recitation. The recently established course of lectures, twenty-five in number, in military hygiene are to be given during the second class year by an officer of the medical department of the Army. The time selected is that at which the class is principally occupied with practical work in the departments of philosophy and chemistry. The cadets at this period of their course have been admirably grounded in the mathematical, chemical, and general physical knowledge necessary to readily become good sanitary engineers, besides having had considerable instruction as to the general conditions for healthy living. It is thought and hoped that these lectures will supplement this knowledge with much valuable practical information.

The above statement with regard to the curriculum has reference to it as it now stands, after the latest revision, and as it goes into effect September 1. This last revision reduced the mathematical course by 40 of its periods, transferring the same to the department of modern languages, thereby establishing that department on the basis above given. In the revision the department of philosophy yielded about 6 per cent of the time which has belonged to it for over sixty-five years to the department of chemistry. The new course of lectures on military hygiene is introduced for the first time.

The relative employment of the entire time of a cadet while at the Academy, under the supervision of the heads of the different departments as to the time devoted to their respective subjects outside of the section room, is given below:

Department.	Relative amount of time occupied.	Department.	Relative amount of time occupied.
Tactics.....	a 28.5	Practical engineering.....	1
Mathematics.....	18	Military hygiene.....	.25
Modern languages.....	14	Sleep.....	110
Engineering.....	10	Recreation.....	90.25
Philosophy.....	9.5	Meals.....	27.75
Chemistry.....	6.5	Furloughs.....	18.5
Law and history.....	5.5	Chapel.....	2.5
Drawing.....	4.75	Total.....	350
Ordnance and gunnery.....	3		

a 6.5 theoretical; 22 practical.

These numbers multiplied by 100 give very approximately the total number of hours occupied by each department during the four years.

In this connection it is pertinent to remark that the length of the academic year at West Point, together with the small number of holidays, makes the course of four years almost as long in actual working time as five years of the ordinary college course of thirty weeks—the academic year at the sister academy at Annapolis is also several weeks shorter than ours.

## ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY.

I ask attention to the following: The Academy has as a part of its equipment an excellent astronomical observatory fitted with valuable scientific instruments sufficient for much scientific research, and consisting of 1 equatorial, 1 transit circle, 1 photographic telescope, 1 prime vertical instrument, and 1 spectrometer, all large instruments and well mounted. The observatory is under the immediate supervision of the professor of natural and experimental philosophy, and to the present time he has had to assist him in its management a line officer of the Army detailed for this special purpose. This policy has worked only fairly well in the instruction of cadets, as the assistant referred to is not permanently detailed, and the policy is one which has necessarily failed to give the return to science and to the Academy that should be had from such a powerful and valuable equipment.

In the opinion of the professor of philosophy, in which I concur, the permanent detail of an Army officer at the observatory is not desirable and the only way in which the observatory can give the return to science that should be expected from it is by the permanent employment of an astronomer. I recommend that this be done. A competent person can be secured at a reasonable salary and he would be of much assistance to the professor in the course of practical astronomy which cadets are required to take. In addition to this work he would be required to take up a series of astronomical observations in some field of pure science, and in their prosecution secure valuable data for a regular series of publications from the observatory. In this way only can this valuable equipment be made to give here the return to be expected from it. I believe the return to be had would justify the additional expense.

## THE ACADEMY'S LIBRARY.

Sincere pleasure is felt at the success attending the efforts made to give this adjunct of instruction an organization commensurate with its importance. Housed in a commodious and well-appointed building, its work directed by an able head whose entire time is devoted to the duty, and with an appropriation sufficient to insure the acquisition of lacking books on military science, history, and other technical subjects, the library is in a condition to do the work so fully set forth in the appended report of the former librarian,<sup>a</sup> to which attention is asked.

## DETACHMENT OF TROOPS.

A further increase of 7 men in the strength of the light artillery detachment is recommended. This detachment has now an enlisted strength of 53 men, but the year's experience shows that this is not sufficient to enable it to properly meet the necessary demands on it. The transfer to Fort Leavenworth of the company of engineers so long stationed at West Point and the substitution for it of a detachment of engineers of less strength has necessarily increased the duties of the other detachments and makes the increase recommended for the artillery detachment especially necessary.

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

The appended reports of the quartermaster<sup>a</sup> and the instructors of practical military engineering and ordnance and gunnery<sup>a</sup> give in detail

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<sup>a</sup>Not printed.

the buildings completed and the large amount of work and the many improvements accomplished during the year. The buildings under way are the south wing of the cadet hospital, the kitchen of the cadet mess, and the officers' mess and quarters. The progress made on the first two has hardly been satisfactory, but steps have been instituted to cause the contractors to push this work with more rapidity and it is expected the kitchen and mess buildings at least will be under cover before winter and permit their completion early next summer.

The appropriation made by Congress at its last session insures for the Military Academy an adequate plant for continuing its work. It is a matter of regret that Congress should have seen fit to reduce by over one-sixth the amount estimated as required to properly rebuild the institution. The sum asked for was arrived at only after the whole subject had been carefully considered by competent judges and the estimates submitted were as close as it was practicable to make them. The reduced appropriation has made necessary a revision of the whole project. The work of now determining just what buildings and other necessary improvements can be secured is being prosecuted by a board of officers. The report of this board will be the basis upon which will be prepared the complete plans to be approved by the Secretary of War before building operations are commenced. The personal care the Secretary of War is giving the matter of the selection of the architect insures plans which will preserve all of the old that is worthy, and make it, with the new, an architectural whole befitting the history of the institution and conforming to its superb natural location. It is hardly to be expected that actual building operations can be begun before the coming summer.

#### CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY.

This year has marked the completion of the first century in the life of the Military Academy which was established March 16 and was formally opened July 4, 1802. The close of the academic year was decided upon as the most suitable time for commemorating the anniversary and the occasion was celebrated with appropriate ceremonies on the 9th, 10th, and 11th days of June. Appended hereto is a programme of the exercises.<sup>a</sup> A feature of the review in honor of the President of the United States on June 11, not in the programme, was the bestowal by him of a medal of honor upon Cadet Calvin P. Titus, of the fourth class, for "gallantry at Pekin, China, August 14, 1900, while a soldier of the Fourteenth United States Infantry." This is the first medal of honor, as far as known to me, to be bestowed upon an undergraduate of the Military Academy and the only one personally presented by the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. Graduation day, June 12, fittingly terminated the exercises. The diplomas of the graduating class were bestowed by the President; the members of the class were addressed by the Hon. Charles Dick, member of Congress, on behalf of the Board of Visitors, and were welcomed into the Army by the honorable Secretary of War and the Lieutenant-General Commanding.

The anniversary excited universal interest among graduates, who spared no effort to make it successful. Invitations to it were extended to the limit of securable accommodations at and near West Point, and it was a matter of great regret to all concerned that our means in this

<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

respect were not more ample; for the fact denied the Academy the pleasure of receiving and caring for many more of its friends and well-wishers. A large proportion of the invited guests were present to take part in the ceremonies, and cordial letters of congratulation and good will were received from those whose engagements prevented their attendance.

It is not too much to say that the exercises were marked from first to last by cordiality and good will on every part. The addresses of the President and all the speakers gave unstinted appreciation to the record the Academy has made during one hundred eventful years of war and peace. It is also most gratifying to remark the great interest with which the whole country joined in the celebration, as is abundantly shown in the reports of the proceedings by the newspaper press. This is especially pleasing, for the cadets impartially represent every portion of the United States. Their records are bound up with the history of the whole country, and the celebration here was but the focus of rays collected from every region of our broad land.

Preparations are being made to issue a full account of the exercises. It is planned to have the volume include all the addresses delivered and also to contain chapters giving the history of West Point and covering other matters of permanent interest. The Board of Visitors has recommended that a large edition of this work be printed for distribution, and it is hoped their recommendation will meet approval.

If the impressive words of the honorable Secretary of War at the centennial anniversary are accepted, that "The Military Academy is more necessary now than one hundred years ago," general satisfaction should be felt with the institution's prospects in entering upon the second century of its work. The school has for its object the training of cadets for the military service of our country. It is a school for the whole Army—not for any special arm. Its scholastic work covers a range of subjects connected with the many duties the educated American officer is expected and must be prepared to perform, and the ideal of its practical work is the graduation yearly of well-grounded young soldiers loyal to their duty and their country and trained to at once take up all the work of subaltern officers.

Recent Congressional action will provide the school with an equipment for work as perfect in its essential requirements as experience can provide. While many thoughtful people believe the number of cadets could, with advantage to the country, be larger, their number is such as to continue to insure the maintenance of high standards of duty and efficiency in the Army.

Finally, the school's faculty and instructors are composed of earnest, progressive officers, devoted to their work, and in full sympathy with the sentiments expressed by the president of the Association of Graduates in unveiling the tablet commemorating the first century in the Academy's life: "Let us all pledge ourselves to our country that the best efforts of our lives shall be to make the record of the second century even more memorable than that of the first."

Very respectfully,

A. L. MILLS,  
*Colonel, U. S. Army, Superintendent.*

The ADJUTANT-GENERAL UNITED STATES ARMY,  
*Washington, D. C.*



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**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OF THE SOLDIERS' HOME.**

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# REPORT

## OF THE

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

THE SOLDIERS' HOME,  
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,  
*Washington, D. C., August 19, 1902.*

SIR: Under the requirements of section 1 of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1883, prescribing regulations for the Soldiers' Home in the District of Columbia, I have the honor to submit the following report of the Board of Commissioners of the Soldiers' Home for the year ended June 30, 1902, and to invite attention to the following table showing the changes that have occurred in the number of beneficiaries during that period:

	Regular.	Tempo- rary.	Total.
On the rolls June 30, 1901.....	1,353	41	1,394
Admitted since.....	345	185	530
Readmitted.....	168		168
Total.....	1,866	226	2,092
Withdrawn from the Home.....	296		296
Dropped, dismissed, etc.....	121	83	204
Died.....	98	4	102
Transferred to permanent roll.....		92	92
Total.....	514	179	693
Leaving on rolls June 30, 1902.....	1,352	47	1,399

This shows an increase of 5 beneficiaries on the rolls since the last annual report.

The number (1,399) on the rolls June 30, 1902, is accounted for as follows:

Present at the Home, 885, 59 more than last year; on out-door relief, 360; in the Government Hospital for the Insane, 25; on furlough, 55; absent sick in the general hospital at Fort Bayard, N. Mex., 71; and 3 suspended.

The daily average number of inmates present during the year was 896. Last year the average was 870 and the preceding year 838.

The total number of deaths was 102. Last year it was 75. Of the 102, 36 died in the Home hospital, 24 on out-door relief, 2 near the

Home, 6 in the Government Hospital for the Insane, 31 at the general hospital at Fort Bayard, 1 on furlough, 1 accidentally killed, and 1 died in his quarters at the Home.

During the year temporary relief was given to destitute discharged soldiers (volunteers and regulars) who were not entitled to admission to the Home to the extent of 12,526 meals, and 295 were provided with lodgings for a few nights each.

The following statement shows the amounts received and expended during the year and the amount of the permanent fund of the Home deposited in the Treasury of the United States:

## PERMANENT FUND.

Balance in the United States Treasury June 30, 1901.....	\$2, 820, 567. 39
Settlement by the Treasury during the year.....	\$536, 045. 62
Amount withdrawn for current expenses .....	236, 000. 00
Increase to permanent fund.....	300, 045. 62
Balance in United States Treasury June 30, 1902 .....	3, 120, 613. 01

## ACCOUNT OF THE TREASURER OF THE HOME.

Remaining on hand June 30, 1901.....	\$4, 836. 43
Received during the year:	
From the permanent fund .....	236, 000. 00
Interest on the permanent fund .....	87, 661. 27
Effects of deceased inmates, subject to demand of legal heirs ...	2, 295. 00
Miscellaneous receipts.....	3, 560. 79
Total receipts.....	334, 353. 49
Disbursements:	
Current expenses.....	\$252, 788. 09
Permanent improvements .....	65, 708. 18
Total disbursements.....	318, 496. 27
Balance on hand June 30, 1902.....	15, 857. 22

As shown by the foregoing statement \$65,708.18 were expended during the year in permanent improvements and repairs, the details of which are given in the reports of the governor and the treasurer of the Home.

Some of the principal items of current expenditure were as follows:

Subsistence .....	\$55, 756. 26
Clothing.....	20, 060. 70
Extra-duty pay to inmates.....	33, 690. 13
Out-door relief .....	30, 378. 00
Fuel for the Home .....	21, 285. 81
Expenses of inmates at hospital at Fort Bayard .....	24, 994. 15

The current expenses were materially greater than in former years, owing, not alone to the high average number of inmates cared for, but to the increase in the cost of all food and other supplies, and to the constant outlay necessary to keep up the miles of roads and walks, the care of the grounds, garden, farm, and dairy, and all the other numerous matters which come under the head of expenses in the administration of the current affairs of an institution of this kind.

As shown above, the expense of keeping beneficiaries suffering from consumption in the general hospital at Fort Bayard was about one-

tenth of the whole current expenditures of the Home, and the amount paid for outdoor relief was about one-eighth of the current expenses.

The construction of new buildings and additions and repairs thereto forms a separate expense account under the head of "Permanent improvements," and was not so large as in former years. In this connection the board desires to invite attention to the necessity for the construction of a new mess hall, plans for which are awaiting the action of the Secretary of War, it being deemed highly desirable that the necessary preparations be made at an early date in order that work can be commenced on the building early in the coming spring.

The treasurer's account of funds received for the inmate pensioners shows that he had on hand June 30, 1901, \$50,595.95; that he received during the year \$163,734.40, and paid to pensioners and legal heirs of deceased inmates \$159,603.54, leaving on hand, deposited in the United States Treasury, as required by law, \$54,726.81.

The pension money of inmates is paid quarterly to the treasurer by the United States pension agent in this city and is held by the treasurer in trust. It is paid monthly to the inmates under the supervision of the governor of the Home, whose report shows that of the 885 inmates 731 were receiving pensions ranging from \$6 to \$30; one receiving \$36 and one \$72 per month.

There are 167 beneficiaries who served in the war with Mexico, 301 who served in the civil war, and 326 who served in the Army since the commencement of the war with Spain. A total of 794 who had war (other than Indian war) service.

The nativity of inmates is about one-half American, one-fourth Irish, one-sixth German, and the balance are natives of other countries. Their ages range from 22 to 90 years. One hundred and seventeen are over 70 years of age.

The attending surgeon reports that 650 patients were treated in the hospital; that the daily average was 103.97, and the average age of patients admitted was 53.48; that 2,562 were treated at sick call, and the proportion of deaths to 100 inmates per annum was 3.75.

The sanitary condition of the Home and grounds has been excellent throughout the year. The water supply and drainage are satisfactory, and there has been no prevalent or epidemic disease among the inmates.

With the view to securing greater efficiency as well as economy of service in the electric-light plant at the Home, the Secretary of War, on the recommendation of the Board, approved the expenditure of \$15,000 for the purpose of enlarging the present plant, and the work is now progressing toward completion.

The Board has authorized the preparation of preliminary plans for the erection of a new administration building, which is deemed to be very necessary, the building now used for the purpose being inadequate.

The account of the farm and dairy shows that the cultivation of the farm and the establishment of the dairy have proved profitable in producing early and late vegetables and better quality of milk than can be supplied by contract.

The act of Congress approved January 19, 1891, requiring the treasurer to keep the current funds on deposit in the Treasury of the United States has been complied with, and all supplies for the Home which could be conveniently purchased by contract were so procured.

The library of the Home now contains 8,147 volumes. Eleven daily and 16 weekly papers and 18 monthly magazines are provided. The daily average number of books issued was 77.

The question having been raised by the Board as to whether the duty to act as members of the Board of Commissioners devolved upon acting chiefs of bureaus, the opinion of the Attorney-General was asked for by the Secretary of War, and he decided that during the absence of such heads of bureaus as are by law members of the Board the officers acting as heads of bureaus succeed to their duties as members of the Board of Commissioners of the Soldiers' Home.

Brig. Gen. George M. Sternberg, Surgeon-General, a member of the Board, was retired from active service June 8, 1902, and was succeeded as a member of the board by Brig. Gen. William H. Forwood, who was appointed Surgeon-General the same date.

Maj. Henry M. Kendall, U. S. Army, retired, having been selected by the President for the office of secretary and treasurer of the Home, to relieve Maj. Charles W. Taylor, Thirteenth Cavalry (recently promoted), of the duties of that office, filed the required bond and entered upon his duties April 4, 1902.

The duties devolved upon the officers of the Home have been performed by them in a highly satisfactory manner, and the Board feels justified in saying that the best interests of the Home and the welfare of its inmates have received every consideration.

Attention is especially invited to the report of the governor of the Home, which, with the accompanying papers (reports of the attending surgeon and treasurer of the Home), are required to be published with this report for distribution to the Army.

Very respectfully,

NELSON A. MILES,  
*Lieutenant-General United States Army,*  
*President Board of Commissioners.*

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

## REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, UNITED STATES SOLDIERS' HOME,  
Washington, D. C., August 18, 1902.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to submit my report as governor of the Soldiers' Home for the period commencing July 1, 1901, and ending June 30, 1902, and to inclose herewith the reports of the attending surgeon and of the secretary and treasurer of the Home, which present in detail information as to the medical and financial administration of the institution.

### *Schedule of admissions to the Home.*

Permanent beneficiaries, June 30, 1901.....	1,353
Admitted during the year ending June 30, 1902 .....	345
Readmitted during the year ending June 30, 1902.....	168

Total .....	1,866
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#### Dropped:

By voluntary withdrawal .....	295
For absence without leave .....	24
By dismissal .....	10
Abandoned the Home .....	2
For misconduct.....	21
By order.....	13
From outdoor relief .....	50
Discharged as cured at general hospital, Fort Bayard .....	1
Died.....	98
	514

Permanent beneficiaries, June 30, 1902.....	1,352
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#### Temporary inmates:

Present, June 30, 1901 .....	41
Admitted during the year.....	185
	226
Total temporary beneficiaries transferred to permanent rolls ....	92
Dropped.....	83
Died .....	4
	179

Remaining temporary inmates, including 1 in insane asylum .....	47
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Total beneficiaries, June 30, 1902.....	1,399
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Eight hundred and eighty-five are inmates of the Home present, 360 receive outdoor relief, 25 are in insane asylum, 55 are on furlough, 71 are absent sick at general hospital, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., and 3 are suspended.

Increase in the number of temporary inmates for the year.....	6
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Decrease in the number of regular inmates for the year .....	1
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The aggregate is 5 more than was shown last report.

Of the 102 deaths reported, 36 occurred in Home hospital, 6 occurred in insane asylum, 24 occurred on outdoor relief, 31 occurred at general hospital, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., 1 occurred on furlough, 2 occurred near the Home, 1 was accidentally killed at the Home, and 1 died at his quarters at the Home.

Daily average number of inmates present during the year ending June 30, 1902, 896. Last report the average was 870, and the preceding year 838.

*Transients.*—During the year 12,526 meals have been furnished to destitute discharged soldiers; and 295 men have been provided with lodgings for a few nights each.

*Number of pensioners present at the Home and rate of pension.*

Rate per month.	Number.	Rate per month.	Number.
\$6 .....	128	\$20 .....	2
\$8 .....	156	\$22 .....	2
\$10 .....	50	\$24 .....	17
\$12 .....	206	\$25 .....	1
\$12.50 .....	1	\$30 .....	14
\$14 .....	51	\$36 .....	1
\$15 .....	1	\$72 .....	1
\$16 .....	23		
\$17 .....	75	Total .....	731
\$18 .....	3		

Total present, 1901 .....	628
Total present, 1900 .....	667
Temporarily admitted for medical treatment .....	51
Denied admission .....	23
Number applying for readmission .....	178
Granted outdoor relief .....	44
Denied outdoor relief .....	41
Number applying for outdoor relief .....	85

Inmates present having service in Mexico .....	33
Inmates on outdoor relief having service in Mexico .....	134

Total inmates having service in Mexico, of whom 31 had service in the civil war .....	167
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Inmates present having service in the civil war .....	219
Inmates absent having service in the civil war .....	82

Total inmates having service in the civil war .....	301
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Inmates present having service since the commencement of the war with Spain ..	215
Inmates absent having service since the commencement of the war with Spain ..	111

Total inmates having service since the commencement of the war with Spain ..	326
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*Nativity of inmates present and absent June 30, 1902.*

United States .....	682	France .....	8
Ireland .....	325	Russia .....	8
Germany .....	222	Holland .....	4
England .....	52	Norway .....	3
Canada .....	20	Belgium .....	2
Austria-Hungary .....	15	Roumania .....	2
Switzerland .....	13	West India .....	1
Denmark .....	9	Cuba .....	1
Scotland .....	16		
Sweden .....	16	Total .....	1,399

*Ages and length of service of inmates present at the Home, June 30, 1902.*

Age.	No.	Age.	No.
22 .....	1	35 .....	5
23 .....	2	36 .....	10
25 .....	5	37 .....	11
26 .....	2	39 .....	5
27 .....	8	40 .....	5
28 .....	9	41 .....	6
29 .....	3	42 .....	7
30 .....	8	43 .....	7
31 .....	10	44 .....	9
32 .....	6	45 .....	6
33 .....	15	46 .....	16
34 .....	1	47 .....	16



*Ages and length of service of inmates present at the Home, June 30, 1902—Continued.*

Age.	No.	Age.	No.
48.....	10	68.....	14
49.....	18	69.....	61
50.....	16	70.....	20
51.....	17	71.....	19
52.....	20	72.....	10
53.....	29	73.....	7
54.....	42	74.....	6
55.....	43	75.....	6
56.....	45	76.....	10
57.....	32	77.....	7
58.....	44	78.....	10
59.....	27	79.....	9
60.....	28	80.....	2
61.....	26	81.....	2
62.....	34	82.....	5
63.....	26	84.....	2
64.....	27	89.....	1
65.....	31	90.....	1
66.....	25		
67.....	24	Total .....	884

Length of service.	No.	Length of service.	No.
3 months.....	1	13 years.....	22
5 months.....	3	14 years.....	13
6 months.....	3	15 years.....	21
7 months.....	8	16 years.....	18
8 months.....	1	17 years.....	18
9 months.....	3	18 years.....	30
10 months.....	2	19 years.....	33
11 months.....	1	20 years.....	96
1 year.....	27	21 years.....	71
2 years.....	56	22 years.....	50
3 years.....	72	23 years.....	45
4 years.....	22	24 years.....	37
5 years.....	40	25 years.....	26
6 years.....	22	26 years.....	20
7 years.....	14	27 years.....	9
8 years.....	21	28 years.....	4
9 years.....	16	29 years.....	1
10 years.....	25	31 years.....	1
11 years.....	17		
12 years.....	20	Total .....	884

*Number of delinquencies committed at the United States Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia, from July 1, 1901, to June 30, 1902.*

Drunkenness.....	123
Absence without leave.....	44
Drunk and disorderly .....	28
Introducing liquor into the Home .....	5
Disobedience of orders.....	5
Destroying Home property.....	2
Disorderly conduct.....	9
Abusing other inmates.....	4
Assaulting other inmates.....	1
Neglect of duty.....	4

Total number of offenses..... 225

Total number of inmates tried.....	180
Number of inmates tried once.....	134
Number of inmates tried twice .....	28
Number of inmates tried three times.....	15
Number of inmates tried four times.....	2
Number of inmates tried five times.....	1
Number of inmates tried for drunkenness .....	85
Number of inmates tried for absence without leave .....	33
Number of inmates tried for other offenses .....	62
Number of inmates not tried .....	1,441
Per cent of inmates tried from July 1, 1901, to June 30, 1902 .....	9

*Home library.*

## Number of books on hand June 30, 1902:

Fiction .....	2,829
Bound volumes of magazines .....	1,781
Miscellaneous (Government publications, etc.) .....	1,396
History .....	658
Biography .....	451
Travels .....	281
Military and naval .....	352
Poetry .....	226
Religious .....	113
Sports, games, etc .....	60
Total .....	8,147

## Periodicals in reading room:

Daily papers .....	11
Weekly papers and pictorials .....	16
Magazines, monthly .....	18
Magazines, quarterly .....	2
Number of books issued during the year .....	23,103
Average daily issue of books .....	77.03

## ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

Under authority of the Board of Commissioners preliminary plans are in course of preparation for a new administration building.

## IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS.

The chapel building has been improved by the enlargement of the chancel and sacristy, or vestry room, introduction of heating plant in new basement, and of plumbing in sacristy.

To the dairy has been added a calf barn and inclosure.

The coal vaults have been enlarged. A new smokestack has been erected at the pump house; new boilers of the Geary pattern and a new electric plant are in course of installation there, to the great improvement and economy of the electric service. In consequence of the introduction of this new plant, the hydraulic elevator in hospital is now to be replaced by an electric elevator. New floors and painting have been authorized for the old wards and halls and piazzas of the hospital, painting of walls in new portion of the building, and terazzo floors in minor operating room, steward's room, and in all bath and wash rooms of the old building.

## EXTRA-DUTY MEN AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES.

Two hundred and twenty-two of the inmates are employed on extra duty as non-commissioned officers, clerks, janitors, electricians, kitchen and dining room attendants, ward masters, waiters and nurses in hospital, carpenters, painters, assistant plumber, assistant blacksmiths, stablemen, teamsters, gate keepers, saddler, and as laborers on the roads and grounds and on the farm.

## THE HERD.

The herd now consists of 2 bulls, 57 cows, 5 heifers, and 13 calves. The milk is of good quality and is pronounced as far better than that obtained under contract before this herd was established.

## TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS.

At the United States general hospital at Fort Bayard, N. Mex., for the treatment of consumptives, there have been admitted since last report as inmates of the Home 186 discharged soldiers, 15 from the Home and 171 direct from the Army, and 55 former inmates have been readmitted. One hundred and seventy-five have been

discharged at their own request, 21 for misconduct, 1 left the hospital without notice, and 31 died. The total number of inmates of the Home treated there for the past year is 299. The number now remaining there is 71. The expense to the Home on this account, including clothing and transportation, has amounted to \$24,994.15.

#### DISCIPLINE.

The rules of discipline have been duly enforced.

#### ENTERTAINMENTS AT STANLEY HALL.

Entertainments were given at Stanley Hall during the autumn, winter, and spring at an expense, exclusive of light and heat, of \$549.75.

#### THE BILLIARD, AMUSEMENT, SMOKING, AND READING ROOMS, MUSEUM, AND LIBRARY.

These are kept in good order, under charge of noncommissioned officers, and are constantly used and enjoyed by the men.

#### THE BAND.

The band consists of the band leader, Mr. John S. M. Zimmerman, 10 inmates, and 8 civilians employed and attached as temporary inmates. In the summer season it gives open-air concerts, two per week at the hospital and five at the Home. In the winter the five at the Home are given in Stanley Hall. It also furnishes music for all entertainments at Stanley Hall and for memorial services and funerals at the cemetery.

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and Episcopal services are held each Sunday in the chapel.

Funeral services for deceased inmates of the Roman Catholic faith are attended by the Roman Catholic chaplain, and of the deceased Protestant inmates by the Episcopal chaplain.

#### OFFICERS, NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND CLERICAL FORCE.

The deputy governor, surgeon, treasurer, clinical assistants, and chaplains have performed their duties most faithfully and acceptably, and full and free acknowledgment is given of their cordial support of the governor in the administration of the Home.

The sergeant-major and all the other noncommissioned officers form an efficient body of men, conscientious and faithful in the performance of their respective duties. The clerical force is attentive, intelligent, and faithful.

#### ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY THE POLICE FORCE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

To the chief of police and his officers and men hearty acknowledgment is given for the abolition of speak easies in the neighborhood of the Home and for efficient service in patrolling the grounds to the preservation of shubbery, flowers, and Home property from destruction or damage at the hands of thoughtless or irresponsible parties, and in the general interest of good order.

Very respectfully,

GEO. D. RUGGLES,  
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Governor.

The BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SOLDIERS' HOME,  
Washington, D. C.



# REPORT OF THE INSPECTION OF THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, August 20, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of an inspection of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia, made May 27-30, 1902, as required by the act of March 3, 1883. The accounts were inspected July 7, 8, 9, 10, 1902. I was accompanied by Lieut. Col. Thomas T. Knox, inspector-general, and by Mr. William T. Kent, accountant of the Inspector-General's Department, who both rendered excellent assistance, one in the general affairs, personnel, improvements, and needs, and the other in the examination of the books and financial transactions of the Home.

## OFFICERS.

There has been a change in the personnel of the officers of the Home since my last inspection—namely, the relief, by Maj. Henry M. Kendall, U. S. Army, retired, of Capt. Charles W. Taylor, Ninth Cavalry, the efficient and energetic secretary and treasurer.

The other officers are now as follows: Governor, Brig. Gen. George D. Ruggles, retired; deputy governor, Lieut. Col. R. F. Bernard, retired, and surgeon, Maj. L. A. La Garde, all of whom are both efficient and zealous officers. It is submitted that at least one line officer on the active list is needed on duty at this Home, perhaps as adjutant.

## POPULATION.

The total population of the Home on June 30, 1902, is given as 1,403 officers and members, 888 of whom were present and 515 absent, the average for the year being 896 present and 536 absent, or a total average of 1,436. The highest number present during the year was 930, on March 10, 1902, and the lowest was 506, on June 19, 1902. The average temporarily cared for during the year was 45, and the total cared for was 2,365, an increase of 114 over last year. There were 360 members absent on outdoor relief, or 45 less than the previous year. Seventy-one were sick at Fort Bayard, N. Mex., or 13 more than last year. How different this status is than the overcrowded condition about a dozen years ago may not be often recalled by many, but marks a great and steady improvement in the condition of the beneficiaries of this establishment. Those on outdoor relief seem more economically cared for than the others and surely equally contented, and it offers the best escape from any repetition of the overcrowding. Some of the building operations heretofore have seemed expensive and occasionally

of questionable character or quality, and any repetition of such extravagant mistakes may well be avoided, though there is apt to be a furor for building in public institutions.

The ages of the members present on June 30, 1902, ranged from 22 years to 90 years, and the average is given as 56.71 years, or 2.62 years less than last year at this Home, and is 6.87 years less than at the Volunteer Home, which may begin again to also have young men on their rolls and some even going back to the Mexican or Indian wars. The number of members receiving pensions, which ranged from \$6 to \$72 per month, was 731, or about half of the total average.

The great majority receive \$12 per month. Forty-five per cent of the inmates present were natives of the United States, 25 per cent were Irish, and 16 per cent were German, the remainder being from various other European countries and Canada.

On May 27, 1902, 529 officers and members of the Home were formed and reviewed, including 9 members of the band. They presented a commendable appearance, being neatly and appropriately dressed, and seemed contented and well provided for. Their appearance showed a perceptible improvement within recent years. A large proportion of the remainder of the 888 members at the Home were said to be sick or on extra duty. There were 60 vacant beds in the barracks and 22 in the hospital, a total of 82 beds.

The accommodations in the present buildings are still ample for the needs of the present membership, as is shown in the following table:

Building.	Capacity.	Occupied by.	Available room.	Per cent unoccupied.
Scott.....	287	228	59	27
Sherman.....	131	115	16	12
Sheridan.....	152	152	.....	.....
King.....	184	148	36	20
Anderson.....	48	36	7	17
Total.....	797	679	117	14

From the above table it would appear that the available room is reduced considerably from last year, at which time the available room could accommodate 187 men against 117 this year; and, with the severities the Army has undergone in the Philippine campaign, it is likely that there will be a largely increased number of applicants.

#### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

The various buildings were found to be generally in excellent condition, and the attractive grounds of 502 acres, with well repaired driveways and walks, reflected great credit on the present administration. Many improvements and repairs have been accomplished. During the year the grounds have been surveyed, maps of them made, grading and terracing done, the bridges, drain pipes, and sewerage repaired, etc., at a cost of \$28,743.52. An addition has been built to the Home chapel, and it has been repainted and decorated at a cost of \$5,006.19. A new calf barn has been added to the dairy, at a cost of \$5,186.17. The old portion of the Barnes Hospital has been repaired at a cost of \$4,626.24, and an electric-light plant is contemplated for lighting it

and the adjacent grounds, at a cost of \$15,000. The present administration building is inadequate and unseemly, and in bad repair, and a new one required. New kitchens are badly needed; the present ones are antiquated.

A new mess hall, a bakery, a butcher's shop, cold storage, and commissary storeroom are all needed. One building will accommodate all of these and the kitchen, and will permit additional space for dormitory, single sleeping rooms, solarium, etc. This building could be placed back of the present library, and the library should be pulled down when the new building shall have been completed; not but what it is about as good as could be expected for a bowling alley, for which it is said to have been extravagantly built; but it has always been a ridiculous eyesore. The new building should comport in dignity of appearance with the Scott Building. The palm house should be more than doubled in size by erecting a central dome much higher than the present building, which should be duplicated on the other side of the dome, thus giving more dignity and pleasing effect to the structure. In the Scott and the Sherman buildings the walls of the rooms occupied by the men were cleanly and freshly painted; the floors were in good condition; the furniture presented an orderly and satisfactory appearance. New closets and urinals have been installed, and are now located on every floor, which greatly adds to the convenience and comfort of the men. The need of elevators and absence of comfortable porches are more than ever evident in this large structure filled with feeble men. The old red bedspreads, which may not show dirt so easily, continue in use; after they become worn they are unsightly and always unsatisfactory. Many of them have been condemned, and all should be discontinued and white ones substituted, of the special pattern with the American eagle, which looks so well in the hospital. The historic Anderson Building, which last year it was rumored was to be demolished to make room for an addition to the Scott Building, I am pleased to report is still remaining, one of the objects of interest in the Home, as the summer residence of President Lincoln and other former Presidents of the United States.

Many of the rooms in the buildings which otherwise are in a satisfactory condition seem untidy, from dust pans and brushes as well as oil receptacles being in full view. If boxes were made to hold them, as has been done for the blacking and brushes, and receptacles provided for the brooms and mops, as at the Marion Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, the appearance of the rooms would be greatly improved. All the books, records, etc., in the governor's office were well kept and complete to date. Stagnant water was observed in front of the steps leading to the basement of the hospital. Drains should be introduced or repaired.

#### DISCIPLINE.

As shown by the report, the discipline of the Home has been very laudable; over 90 per cent of the average present committed no offense since last year's inspection. The principal offenses during the year were drunkenness, for which there were 118 trials, and absence without leave, for which there were 44 trials. The number of members tried for drunkenness was 85 or 13 less than the previous year. The total number of offenses committed during the year was 225 and the

total number of members punished was 161. The penalties attached are dismissal, suspension, light labor on the Home grounds, and confinement to limits.

Watchmen, Home police, and provost-sergeants enforce the discipline in the grounds, and the buildings are looked after by first sergeants and Home police. The system of pass privileges is very liberal, and passes are granted at any time whenever applied for, excepting to members who are confined to limits.

#### AMUSEMENTS.

The facilities for recreation and amusements consist in theatrical and other entertainments in Stanley Hall, a library well supplied with books, an excellent band of 17 pieces, a billiard hall, card rooms, golf, quoits, chess, backgammon, checkers, dominoes, etc. Fourteen theatrical performances are reported as having been given during the year, at a total cost of \$549.75. No charge for admission to these is made to the members, nor is any required for any performance at the Home. They are all well attended. A limited number of civilian friends of managers of the theatrical troupes performing are admitted free. At some Volunteer Branches it is claimed that interest and decorum is increased by a nominal charge of 5 or 10 cents, with possibly not only a free list, but a rotation of this among special buildings, so pleasant emulation can be secured for their special night. By the way of an extension of the amusements and recreation for the old veterans, it might be well to follow the example of the Central Branch of the Volunteer Home by having a clubhouse for them, or, like the Western Branch, a base-ball park, where different base-ball teams played for a consideration during the seasonable weather and afforded the men a very popular means of amusement.

The band is a source of much pleasure to the members of the Home and to the many visitors from the city who drive out to enjoy the concerts. The band is composed of 9 members and 8 civilians, and is maintained throughout the entire year at a cost of \$5,233, which includes subsistence and the other allowances of civilians. During the year they gave 249 concerts, all of which were well attended, at an average cost of about \$21 per concert. This is considerably less than the concerts given at the majority of the Branches of the Volunteer Homes. The leader of the band receives a salary of \$35 per month, and the civilian musicians receive the same allowance of clothing, rations, and fuel as the members, and are quartered in the Anderson Building. In the basement of the Sherman Building is located the billiard hall, containing 3 billiard, 1 pool, and 2 bagatelle tables, all in good condition and in constant use. No charge is made for the use of these tables. In the amusement rooms of the various barracks there are 27 card tables, cards being one of the favorite sources of amusement among the members.

The societies among the members are the Grand Army of the Republic, with a membership of 82, and the Spanish war veterans, with 125.

The library, which is located conveniently close to the barracks, was in apparently good condition, and contained, at the date of inspection, 8,140 volumes, an increase over previous years. Its seating capacity is 80, and the average daily attendance was 260 members. They appear to have a greater desire for books of fiction, biography, and histories



of wars than for others. The ten books most read were Alice of Old Vincennes, Blennerhassett, Helmet of Navarre, Dri and I, Audry, To Have and to Hold, the works of Charles Reade and Conan Doyle, lives of McClellan, Custer, and other great generals, and civil-war histories. These books are allowed to be taken from the library on condition that they are not kept longer than fourteen days without renewal.

The desire for pets, usual among men, especially soldiers, shows no evidence here. Would not some collection of animals be interesting to the old men here, as at the California Home?

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

In the picturesque ivy-covered chapel of the Home are held, every Sunday or holiday, the religious services for the members. The services of one Catholic chaplain at \$50, one Episcopal chaplain at \$50, and one Lutheran chaplain at \$25 per month are engaged; who, in addition, visit the sick, attend the funerals, and attend to the other duties of their profession. None of them reside at the Home. The capacity of the chapel is 200, and the services, numbering 3 each Sunday or holiday (one of each denomination), are reported to be well attended. The chapel has been enlarged and redecorated since last inspection and is very attractive.

#### DISBURSEMENTS.

Since last inspection Capt. C. W. Taylor, Ninth Cavalry, was relieved as treasurer, on April 1, 1902, by Maj. Henry M. Kendall, U. S. Army, retired. Both of these officers' accounts and books were inspected to June 30, 1902, and the transactions under the two funds handled at this Home were as follows:

##### HOME FUND.

Balance on hand July 1, 1901 .....		\$4, 836. 43
Received from United States Treasury .....	\$323, 661. 27	
Received from sales .....	2, 370. 94	
Received from collections .....	3, 484. 85	
	<hr/>	329, 517. 06
Total to be accounted for .....		334, 353. 49
Disbursed as per vouchers:		
Paid by check .....	\$227, 042. 61	
Paid by cash .....	91, 453. 66	
	<hr/>	318, 496. 27
Balance on hand June 30, 1902 .....		15, 857. 22

##### PENSION FUND.

Balance on hand July 1, 1901 .....		\$50, 595. 95
Received from United States pension agent .....		109, 023. 79
Total to be accounted for .....		159, 619. 74
Paid to pensioners:		
By check .....	\$28, 954. 27	
By cash .....	75, 938. 66	
	<hr/>	104, 892. 93
Balance on hand June 30, 1902 .....		54, 726. 81

## DISTRIBUTION.

Balance of Home fund.....	\$15,857.22
Balance of pension fund.....	54,726.81
Total balance on hand June 30, 1902.....	70,584.03
Distributed as follows:	
On deposit in Treasury of United States .....	70,415.05
Cash in office safe .....	168.98
Total.....	70,584.03

It is noted that the large balances kept on hand in the pension fund heretofore observed in former inspections appear to have increased, and this year's balance is \$4,130.86 larger than that of last year. These balances, varying between \$40,000 and \$55,000, if permitted to draw interest like most of the funds, would defray the expenses for keeping the pension accounts, which are still borne by the Home fund. The expenditures in the pension fund for this year are \$287.98 less than last year, and the number of pensioners reported on the rolls June 30, 1902, is 731, or an increase of 55 over last year. The balance of the pension fund on June 30, 1902, amounting to \$54,726.81, pertained to 348 pensioners, 221 of whom had less than \$100 to their credit; 98 had \$100 and less than \$500; 21 had \$500 and less than \$1,000, and 8 had over \$1,000 to their credit.

It is also noted that the expenditures in the Home fund are less than those of last year by \$29,339.23; still the cash payments in this fund exceed those of last by \$10,510.11. Only a small amount of cash is kept on hand however. It is usually found that individual checks furnish one security in disbursements.

The average cost per capita for the year was \$251.28½ and is \$39.42½ more per capita than last year. The following table shows the various subheads involved:

Subsistence .....	\$62.22½
Clothing.....	22.39
Household.....	40.26½
Current expenses.....	93.24½
Hospital.....	9.75
Farm.....	13.20½
Repairs.....	10.21
Total average cost per capita .....	251.28½

The average cost of maintenance per capita for 1901 at the Volunteer Soldiers' Home was \$133.43, and the average cost per capita for the past year for those on outdoor relief was \$81.44. Do not these figures accentuate a condition which demonstrates what is the wisest policy for this Home?

It was observed that the balances of both the permanent fund and the interest account on June 30, 1902, were the largest carried for the past six years.

The following statement shows the transactions affecting the permanent fund for the past six years and for nine months of the year 1900:

## PERMANENT FUND.

	1896.	1897.	1898.
Balance Oct. 1.....	\$2,690,042.83	\$2,711,124.52	\$2,737,597.95
Credit settlement.....	145,700.49	134,256.23	109,142.13
Total.....	2,835,743.32	2,845,380.75	2,846,740.08
Drawn for current expenses.....	124,618.80	107,782.80	121,000.00
Balance Sept. 30.....	2,711,124.52	2,737,597.95	2,725,740.08

	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Balance Oct. 1.....	\$2,725,740.08	\$2,582,016.81	\$2,556,741.68	\$2,820,567.09
Balance July 1.....			511,825.71	536,045.62
Credit settlement.....	40,676.73	228,724.87		
Total.....	2,766,416.81	2,810,741.68	3,068,567.39	3,356,612.71
Drawn for current expenses.....	184,400.00	254,000.00	248,000.00	286,000.00
Balance Sept. 30.....	2,582,016.81	2,556,741.68	2,820,567.39	3,120,612.71
Balance June 30.....				

## INTEREST ACCOUNT.

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Balance Oct. 1.....	\$20,095.33	\$20,245.64	\$20,503.68	\$20,284.96	\$19,640.86		
Balance July 1.....						\$18,992.59	\$20,883.11
Interest on deposits.....	81,403.84	81,965.37	81,442.16	80,565.69	58,144.18	80,811.62	90,430.10
Total.....	101,499.17	102,211.01	101,945.84	100,850.65	77,785.04	99,804.21	111,313.21
Payments.....	81,253.53	81,707.33	81,660.88	81,209.79	58,792.45	78,921.10	87,661.27
Balance Sept. 30.....	20,245.64	20,503.68	20,284.96	19,640.86			
Balance June 30.....					18,992.59	20,883.11	23,651.94

The total amount contributed to the permanent fund during the year ending June 30, 1902, was as follows:

Deductions of 12½ cents per month and fines.....	\$465,028.31
Forfeitures by deserters.....	71,017.31
Total.....	536,045.62
And the interest on deposits during the year.....	90,430.10
Total legitimate income for the year.....	626,475.72

The total amount expended during the year was \$318,496.27, of which \$60,926.42 was for construction or permanent improvements, and being deducted leaves \$257,569.85 as the actual expenses for the year, thus showing the legitimate income for the year to have been \$368,906.87 more than the actual expenses.



# REPORT OF THE INSPECTION OF THE SOLDIERS' HOME.

---

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, August 20, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of an inspection of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia, made May 27-30, 1902, as required by the act of March 3, 1883. The accounts were inspected July 7, 8, 9, 10, 1902. I was accompanied by Lieut. Col. Thomas T. Knox, inspector-general, and by Mr. William T. Kent, accountant of the Inspector-General's Department, who both rendered excellent assistance, one in the general affairs, personnel, improvements, and needs, and the other in the examination of the books and financial transactions of the Home.

## OFFICERS.

There has been a change in the personnel of the officers of the Home since my last inspection—namely, the relief, by Maj. Henry M. Kendall, U. S. Army, retired, of Capt. Charles W. Taylor, Ninth Cavalry, the efficient and energetic secretary and treasurer.

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## POPULATION.

The total population of the Home on June 30, 1902, is given as 1,403 officers and members, 888 of whom were present and 515 absent, the average for the year being 896 present and 536 absent, or a total average of 1,436. The highest number present during the year was 930, on March 10, 1902, and the lowest was 506, on June 19, 1902. The average temporarily cared for during the year was 45, and the total cared for was 2,365, an increase of 114 over last year. There were 360 members absent on outdoor relief, or 45 less than the previous year. Seventy-one were sick at Fort Bayard, N. Mex., or 13 more than last year. How different this status is than the overcrowded condition about a dozen years ago may not be often recalled by many, but marks a great and steady improvement in the condition of the beneficiaries of this establishment. Those on outdoor relief seem more economically cared for than the others and surely equally contented, and it offers the best escape from any repetition of the overcrowding. Some of the building operations heretofore have seemed expensive and occasionally

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The accommodations in the present buildings are still ample for the needs of the present membership, as is shown in the following table:

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#### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

The various buildings were found to be generally in excellent condition, and the attractive grounds of 502 acres, with well repaired driveways and walks, reflected great credit on the present administration. Many improvements and repairs have been accomplished. During the year the grounds have been surveyed, maps of them made, grading and terracing done, the bridges, drain pipes, and sewerage repaired, etc., at a cost of \$28,743.52. An addition has been built to the Home chapel, and it has been repainted and decorated at a cost of \$5,006.19. A new calf barn has been added to the dairy, at a cost of \$5,186.17. The old portion of the Barnes Hospital has been repaired at a cost of \$4,626.24, and an electric-light plant is contemplated for lighting it

and the adjacent grounds, at a cost of \$15,000. The present administration building is inadequate and unseemly, and in bad repair, and a new one required. New kitchens are badly needed; the present ones are antiquated.

A new mess hall, a bakery, a butcher's shop, cold storage, and commissary storeroom are all needed. One building will accommodate all of these and the kitchen, and will permit additional space for dormitory, single sleeping rooms, solarium, etc. This building could be placed back of the present library, and the library should be pulled down when the new building shall have been completed; not but what it is about as good as could be expected for a bowling alley, for which it is said to have been extravagantly built; but it has always been a ridiculous eyesore. The new building should comport in dignity of appearance with the Scott Building. The palm house should be more than doubled in size by erecting a central dome much higher than the present building, which should be duplicated on the other side of the dome, thus giving more dignity and pleasing effect to the structure. In the Scott and the Sherman buildings the walls of the rooms occupied by the men were cleanly and freshly painted; the floors were in good condition; the furniture presented an orderly and satisfactory appearance. New closets and urinals have been installed, and are now located on every floor, which greatly adds to the convenience and comfort of the men. The need of elevators and absence of comfortable porches are more than ever evident in this large structure filled with feeble men. The old red bedspreads, which may not show dirt so easily, continue in use; after they become worn they are unsightly and always unsatisfactory. Many of them have been condemned, and all should be discontinued and white ones substituted, of the special pattern with the American eagle, which looks so well in the hospital. The historic Anderson Building, which last year it was rumored was to be demolished to make room for an addition to the Scott Building, I am pleased to report is still remaining, one of the objects of interest in the Home, as the summer residence of President Lincoln and other former Presidents of the United States.

Many of the rooms in the buildings which otherwise are in a satisfactory condition seem untidy, from dust pans and brushes as well as oil receptacles being in full view. If boxes were made to hold them, as has been done for the blacking and brushes, and receptacles provided for the brooms and mops, as at the Marion Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, the appearance of the rooms would be greatly improved. All the books, records, etc., in the governor's office were well kept and complete to date. Stagnant water was observed in front of the steps leading to the basement of the hospital. Drains should be introduced or repaired.

#### DISCIPLINE.

As shown by the report, the discipline of the Home has been very laudable; over 90 per cent of the average present committed no offense since last year's inspection. The principal offenses during the year were drunkenness, for which there were 118 trials, and absence without leave, for which there were 44 trials. The number of members tried for drunkenness was 85 or 13 less than the previous year. The total number of offenses committed during the year was 225 and the

total number of members punished was 161. The penalties attached are dismissal, suspension, light labor on the Home grounds, and confinement to limits.

Watchmen, Home police, and provost-sergeants enforce the discipline in the grounds, and the buildings are looked after by first sergeants and Home police. The system of pass privileges is very liberal, and passes are granted at any time whenever applied for, excepting to members who are confined to limits.

#### AMUSEMENTS.

The facilities for recreation and amusements consist in theatrical and other entertainments in Stanley Hall, a library well supplied with books, an excellent band of 17 pieces, a billiard hall, card rooms, golf, quoits, chess, backgammon, checkers, dominoes, etc. Fourteen theatrical performances are reported as having been given during the year, at a total cost of \$549.75. No charge for admission to these is made to the members, nor is any required for any performance at the Home. They are all well attended. A limited number of civilian friends of managers of the theatrical troupes performing are admitted free. At some Volunteer Branches it is claimed that interest and decorum is increased by a nominal charge of 5 or 10 cents, with possibly not only a free list, but a rotation of this among special buildings, so pleasant emulation can be secured for their special night. By the way of an extension of the amusements and recreation for the old veterans, it might be well to follow the example of the Central Branch of the Volunteer Home by having a clubhouse for them, or, like the Western Branch, a base-ball park, where different base-ball teams played for a consideration during the seasonable weather and afforded the men a very popular means of amusement.

The band is a source of much pleasure to the members of the Home and to the many visitors from the city who drive out to enjoy the concerts. The band is composed of 9 members and 8 civilians, and is maintained throughout the entire year at a cost of \$5,233, which includes subsistence and the other allowances of civilians. During the year they gave 249 concerts, all of which were well attended, at an average cost of about \$21 per concert. This is considerably less than the concerts given at the majority of the Branches of the Volunteer Homes. The leader of the band receives a salary of \$35 per month, and the civilian musicians receive the same allowance of clothing, rations, and fuel as the members, and are quartered in the Anderson Building. In the basement of the Sherman Building is located the billiard hall, containing 3 billiard, 1 pool, and 2 bagatelle tables, all in good condition and in constant use. No charge is made for the use of these tables. In the amusement rooms of the various barracks there are 27 card tables, cards being one of the favorite sources of amusement among the members.

The societies among the members are the Grand Army of the Republic, with a membership of 82, and the Spanish war veterans, with 125.

The library, which is located conveniently close to the barracks, was in apparently good condition, and contained, at the date of inspection, 8,140 volumes, an increase over previous years. Its seating capacity is 80, and the average daily attendance was 260 members. They appear to have a greater desire for books of fiction, biography, and histories



of wars than for others. The ten books most read were Alice of Old Vincennes, Blennerhassett, Helmet of Navarre, Dri and I, Audry, To Have and to Hold, the works of Charles Reade and Conan Doyle, lives of McClellan, Custer, and other great generals, and civil-war histories. These books are allowed to be taken from the library on condition that they are not kept longer than fourteen days without renewal.

The desire for pets, usual among men, especially soldiers, shows no evidence here. Would not some collection of animals be interesting to the old men here, as at the California Home?

#### RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

In the picturesque ivy-covered chapel of the Home are held, every Sunday or holiday, the religious services for the members. The services of one Catholic chaplain at \$50, one Episcopal chaplain at \$50, and one Lutheran chaplain at \$25 per month are engaged; who, in addition, visit the sick, attend the funerals, and attend to the other duties of their profession. None of them reside at the Home. The capacity of the chapel is 200, and the services, numbering 3 each Sunday or holiday (one of each denomination), are reported to be well attended. The chapel has been enlarged and redecorated since last inspection and is very attractive.

#### DISBURSEMENTS.

Since last inspection Capt. C. W. Taylor, Ninth Cavalry, was relieved as treasurer, on April 1, 1902, by Maj. Henry M. Kendall, U. S. Army, retired. Both of these officers' accounts and books were inspected to June 30, 1902, and the transactions under the two funds handled at this Home were as follows:

##### HOME FUND.

Balance on hand July 1, 1901 .....		\$4, 836. 43
Received from United States Treasury .....	\$323, 661. 27	
Received from sales .....	2, 370. 94	
Received from collections .....	3, 484. 85	
	<hr/>	329, 517. 06
Total to be accounted for .....		334, 353. 49
Disbursed as per vouchers:		
Paid by check .....	\$227, 042. 61	
Paid by cash .....	91, 453. 66	
	<hr/>	318, 496. 27
Balance on hand June 30, 1902.....		15, 857. 22

##### PENSION FUND.

Balance on hand July 1, 1901 .....		\$50, 595. 95
Received from United States pension agent.....		109, 023. 79
		<hr/>
Total to be accounted for .....		159, 619. 74
Paid to pensioners:		
By check .....	\$28, 954. 27	
By cash .....	75, 938. 66	
	<hr/>	104, 892. 93
Balance on hand June 30, 1902.....		54, 726. 81

The Sheridan is still the most popular building at the Home among the men, and as usual is a model of neatness and good order as well as comfort. The changes in the King Building, perhaps its elevator especially, have greatly improved its comfort, which should be extended to all. The painstaking care and soldierly condition of the other dormitories and halls are very commendable. It is submitted that the medical officers should examine monthly and report upon the condition of every occupied building while the men are in dress and make this duty as complete as at any of our military posts.

It may again be timely, before further expensive structures are erected on this site, to invite attention to the proportionate value of the land to the occupants or the purposes for which it is used as compared with any other State or National Home in the country. Surely the national capital should hardly expect such an expensive addition to its parking facilities to be maintained at the expense of our discharged or active soldiers. And the extravagance of the stagnant plant in comparison with any other probable site is even more noticeable than the almost double price per capita for maintenance it naturally leads to. Of course it furnishes a delightful, maybe luxurious, residence. But is it reasonable?

It may not be easy to remember there ever was a scandal connected with this old Soldiers' Home, the wornout roads, overcrowded condition, inadequate amusements, overrunning bedbugs, tuberculosis cows, dirty hospital and kitchen there many years ago, and the present admirable condition may not be readily recognized at a transient glance, but the improved conditions are evident. The change has doubtless been effected by wise administration under far more careful law, but many individuals have certainly had a share of the brunt of the contest. The whole country in every section contains individuals who know there is much to admire in this old Soldiers' Home.

It is a pleasant duty to bear witness to how greatly and in how many particulars this Home has improved and is still improving since my earlier inspections of it a dozen years ago. Its method of foundation was romantic and connected with a great name and event and its exterior appearance was then also fine, and many features of its internal management deserved earnest commendation, and as a whole it had won official and popular favor; but it is submitted, subject to the better judgment of its officers and the board of managers, and their superiors who have direct responsibilities in conducting and controlling it, that in every particular and in general effect and results it has decidedly improved. The possibilities of doing still better in certain matters have been submitted with hesitation simply that such items may receive, if they have not already or chance to deserve it, whatever consideration may appear to still be wise.

The following lists show various recommendations made by the inspector-general and adopted and those made and still recommended:

*List of recommendations, criticisms, or suggestions made in various former annual reports on inspections of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia, which have been adopted or remedied.*

Supply of hot water inadequate in the Sheridan Building.

Protection from the stone floors for the feet of the members in the smoking rooms and some of the bedrooms.

Better water-closets in the King Building.

That the treasurer be required to keep his accounts after the manner prescribed by the War Department.

That the water supply and sewerage be connected with the system of the city.

Scarcity of sidewalks for recreation.

Too many bedbugs.

Inadequate facilities for bathing.

That slippers or barrack shoes and mattress covers be added to the clothing allowance.

Bad condition of the basement floors.

Sheridan Building too cold in winter.

Discontinue the use of kerosene oil on the floors.

Erection of an amusement hall.

Organization of a fire company.

Locker stands.

That the fiscal year be changed so as to begin July 1 and end June 30 of each year.

Location of kitchen not conducive to cleanliness.

Improve facilities for washing dishes.

Some other provision for storing mess coal.

Flag worn out.

Sherman Building, walls leaky.

Quick passenger elevator in hospital.

Place of confinement for prisoners ill ventilated and malodorous.

Toilet paper used in barracks.

Thorough overhauling of King Building.

Woven wire springs supplied to all beds.

*List of recommendations, criticisms, or suggestions made in various former reports on inspections of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia, which have not been adopted or remedied.*

Porches for the Sherman Building.

Quick passenger elevators for the Scott and Sherman buildings.

One additional young officer on the active list, a part of whose duty would be to witness and supervise all issues and receipts of stores.

Ragged coverlets on beds in the King and Scott buildings.

That the pension money be paid to the inmates without any interposition of the treasurer of the Home, or their money remain with the permanent fund.

That a deposit system with the treasurer be inaugurated by which the inmates could have interest on their money saved from pensions, and the Home have the use of it instead of using its interest-bearing money.

Pictures be placed on the walls, at least in the halls.

That the statute apply here (Rev. Stat., 3711-3713) under which it is not lawful for any officer or person in the civil, military, or naval service of the United States in the District of Columbia to purchase coal or wood for public service except on condition that the same shall, before delivery, be inspected and weighed or measured by a duly appointed inspector.

Receptacles should be on every floor for implements for police purposes.

Those who remember the scandal and contest which formerly occurred and compare those conditions with the prevailing harmony, regularity, cleanliness, and efficiency of the present time, and the commendation so well won and heartily given now, may appreciate the existing system and recognize who among the officers and Board of Managers have contributed so admirably to these results. Is there need to mention such illustrations as the great improvement and practical perfection effected in the hospital under the present Surgeon-General when on duty there, and continued still, and the improved and enlarged hospital building; and the decided improvement in the condition of the food and cooking arrangements, as well as in the bedding and less crowded condition of the dormitories, and even in the clothing, under a succession of most efficient deputy governors; and the marked improvements in the buildings and grounds and method and management under a series of distinguished and experienced governors—all this under the constant, faithful, and zealous supervision of the Board

of Managers, some of whom may remember when the food taken immediately from the table was submitted to scientific test, and the distribution and inferior quality of home-raised vegetables and hay was noted, and the herd of milch cows having tuberculosis was exterminated? Of course the question whether every dollar expended procures a dollar's worth is constantly to the front, so that absolute economy or minimum per capita expense, as well as unquestionable efficiency, may be confidently relied upon, even in comparison with the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. But probably this is not the question that impresses outsiders most, who are apt to be impressed rather with the beauty and costliness of the buildings and grounds and the habitual look of contentment and cleanliness among the old or enfeebled occupants, though to these occupants the successful struggle against vermin, and the more generous introduction of elevators and walks and benches and verandas, touch more nearly the comfort of their daily life.

The improvements in general made throughout this Home during the past twelve years have been so numerous and of so marked a character that they reflect great credit upon the personnel and upon the existing system of management of this important institution, and its annual scrutiny imposed by law upon this department, which, working together so persistently and systematically, has secured such commendable results, so that among the many thousands who annually see this Home "none name it but to praise," and its pictures are widely distributed throughout the nation. And it is respectfully submitted that the high plane upon which the service is conducted here and elsewhere, and the steady progress and admirable results secured, have not been and can not by any other method be better, if so well, secured than is obtained under this combination of well-ordered duty and disinterested inspection in every branch of military work.

For further details on the various subjects cursorily touched upon herein attention is invited to the various exhibits<sup>a</sup> appended.

Respectfully submitted.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,  
*Inspector-General.*

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

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<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

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**NATIONAL HOME FOR DISABLED  
VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS.**

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## INSPECTION OF THE BRANCHES OF THE NATIONAL HOME FOR DISABLED VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, December 6, 1902.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that under instructions conveyed by letters from the Secretary of War, dated June 6 and October 10, 1902, I have made the annual inspection of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, its records, disbursements, management, discipline, and condition, as required by the act of August 18, 1894. The inspection comprised the several Branches of the Home, including the uncompleted Mountain Branch near Johnson City, Tenn., and the newly authorized Battle Mountain Sanitarium at Hot Springs, S. Dak., and the offices of the president of the Board of Managers and the general treasurer. The inspection extended from July 15 to October 22, 1902, and the inspections were made in the following order and on the dates named, to wit:

Eastern Branch, Togus, Me., July 16 to 21, 1902.

Battle Mountain Sanitarium, Hot Springs, S. Dak., August 4, 1902.

Pacific Branch, Santa Monica, Cal., August 7 to 10, 1902.

Western Branch, Leavenworth, Kans., August 18 to 21, 1902.

Northwestern Branch, Milwaukee, Wis., August 22 to 24, 1902.

Danville Branch, Danville, Ill., August 25 to 28, 1902.

Marion Branch, Marion, Ind., August 28 to September 2, 1902.

Central Branch, Dayton, Ohio, September 2 to 6, 1902.

Mountain Branch, Johnson City, Tenn., September 8 and 9, 1902.

Southern Branch, near Hampton, Va., September 22 to 25, 1902.

I was accompanied on this tour to the Branches, except the Battle Mountain Sanitarium, by Mr. William T. Kent, accountant of the Inspector-General's Department, who rendered valuable assistance in the inspection of the accounts and disbursements.

### ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

The Home is composed of ten distinct Branches, situated in as many different States. Of these the Mountain Branch, in Tennessee, will soon be ready for occupancy, and the Battle Mountain Sanitarium, in South Dakota, is expected soon to be under construction. The other eight are in actual operation, and some of them have been so for many years. The first Branch (Eastern) was established by act of Congress of March 21, 1866, and the last (Battle Mountain) by the act of May 29, 1902, thus covering a period of thirty-six years. The Branches were established in the following order: Eastern, Central, Northwest-

ern, Southern, Western, Pacific, Marion, Danville, Mountain, and Battle Mountain.

By enactment of Congress the government of the Home is vested in a Board of Managers, the members of which elect the officers of the board from among themselves. The officers consist of a president, two vice-presidents, and a secretary. Except the president and secretary, all members of the board serve without compensation. The board also elects certain general officers, to wit: An inspector-general, two assistant inspectors-general, a general treasurer, and an assistant general treasurer. These officers are not members of the Board of Managers. The headquarters of the Board of Managers is in New York City, N. Y., where the president and general treasurer have their offices. Each Branch of the Home has a member of the Board of Managers assigned as its local manager, and all Branch officers are also appointed by the board, which also prescribes rules and regulations for the government of the entire institution. The board holds quarterly meetings and special meetings from time to time at various places, as they may decide, and seven members—of whom the president or either of the vice-presidents shall be one—constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business at any of these meetings.

#### PERSONNEL.

Since the previous inspection Gen. William J. Sewell, first vice-president of the Board of Managers, was unfortunately removed by death. He had long been connected with the Board of Managers of the Home, and had served as president of the board, and had contributed greatly by his invaluable services through a long series of years to bring the entire Home up to its present high standard of efficiency and usefulness. He served as president of the Board of Managers for only a short time, resigning the position on account of more pressing calls upon his time; but whether as president of the board, or simply as a member of it, he rendered services that were extremely valuable, and can not soon be forgotten.

Gen. A. L. Pearson, a member of the board, was made first vice-president after the death of General Sewell; and Capt. Henry E. Palmer, of Omaha, Nebr., was elected a member of the board to fill the vacancy occasioned by the expiration of the term of General Franklin. The Board of Managers is now constituted as follows; viz:

Members.	Residence.	Manager of Branch.	Term expires.
Gen. M. T. McMahon, president.....	New York City .....	.....	1904
Gen. A. L. Pearson, first vice-president.....	Pittsburg, Pa. ....	Southern .....	1906
Col. J. L. Mitchell, second vice-president .....	Milwaukee, Wis. ....	Northwestern .....	1904
Col. Geo. W. Steele, secretary.....	Marion, Ind. ....	Marion .....	1906
Gen. Chas. M. Anderson.....	Greenville, Ohio. ....	Central .....	1906
Col. S. G. Cooke .....	Herington, Kans. ....	Western .....	1906
Gen. T. J. Henderson.....	Princeton, Ill. ....	Danville.....	1906
Gen. J. M. Brown .....	Portland, Me. ....	Eastern.....	1906
Maj. W. H. Bonsall.....	Los Angeles, Cal. ....	Pacific.....	1904
Capt. Henry E. Palmer.....	Omaha, Nebr. ....	Battle Mountain .....	1904
Col. Walter P. Brownlow .....	Jonesboro, Tenn. ....	Mountain .....	1906

In addition to the foregoing 11 active members, the President of the United States, the Secretary of War, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court are ex officio members of the board, making 14 mem-



bers in all. The active members are elected from time to time by Congress for a term of six years.

Since the last inspection some changes have also occurred in Branch officers, which will be found in the subjoined reports on the respective Branches, together with various other statistical matter concerning the Branches.

#### GENERAL CONDITIONS.

The condition and administration of the Home, with all its Branches, continues to be very satisfactory, beyond any formerly observed. The Board of Managers continue to discharge the duties of their trust with fidelity and ability. A gratifying interest is displayed, and efforts were apparent by the officers of the different Branches to make each Branch the best. So long as this friendly and proper rivalry obtains between the Branches good results will necessarily follow. The plan of arranging a spirit of competition between the companies at each Branch, with limits consistent with the age and strength of the men, to promote discipline and provide a community interest and diversion has grown beyond the Marion Branch, where it was first inaugurated, and has developed to a successful standard.

#### LEGISLATION.

The sundry civil act, making appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, approved June 25, 1902, provides that—

Hereafter the officers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, and officers under the Board of Managers thereof, shall be appointed, so far as may be practicable, from persons whose military or naval service would render them eligible, if disabled and not otherwise provided for, for admission to the Home, and they may be appointed, removed and transferred from time to time, as the interests of the institution may require, by the Board of Managers.

This act also appropriated the sum of \$3,723,969 for the maintenance of the Home during the fiscal year 1903, and this amount included new constructions, etc., as follows:

At the Central Branch: Extension of the electric-light plant; greenhouse.

At the Eastern Branch: New barrack, new boilers, guard barrack.

At the Southern Branch: New water-tube boilers, new frame barrack.

At the Western Branch: Completion of chaplains' quarters, extension of electric-light plant, extension of boiler house, additional boilers, one combination barrack, extension to laundry, headquarters building, open feed shed for cattle.

At the Pacific Branch: Addition to general dining room, repairing and completing attics over hospital and in four barracks.

At the Marion Branch: Heating plant; combination barracks.

At the Mountain Branch: General construction.

This does not include the special appropriation for the construction of the Battle Mountain Sanitarium, which is treated in detail in the special report on that Branch in the Appendix.

The act of Congress approved July 1, 1902, provides that—

Hereafter any balance of pension money due a member of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers at the time of his death shall be paid to his widow, minor children, or dependent mother or father in the order named, and should no widow,

minor child, or dependent parent be discovered within one year from the time of the death of the pensioner, said balance shall be paid to the post fund at the Branch of said National Home of which the pensioner was a member at the time of his death, to be used for the common benefit of the members of the Home under the direction of the Board of Managers, subject to future reclamation by the relatives hereinbefore designated, upon application filed with the Board of Managers within five years after the pensioner's death.

#### POPULATION.

The total number of members, present and absent, at the several Branches of the Home on June 30, 1902, was 27,205, of whom 19,404 were present and 7,801 absent—a net gain of 764 during the year. The gain and loss, by Branches during the year were as follows:

Gains:	
Eastern Branch .....	31
Western Branch .....	249
Pacific Branch .....	90
Northwestern Branch .....	42
Danville Branch .....	777
Marion Branch .....	76
Central Branch .....	9
Total .....	1, 274
Loss:	
Southern Branch .....	510
Net gain .....	764

The large apparent gain at the Danville Branch is due to the fact that it is a new Branch, and just now in the process of filling up with members. The loss at the Southern Branch was occasioned by the overcrowded condition, which necessitated the stoppage of admissions, and the transfer of many members to other Branches.

The average number of members cared for during the year was 27,079, of whom 20,501 were the average present and 6,578 were the average absent, and the total number cared for was 32,767. As compared with the preceding year the gain in the average present was 490 and the gain in the total number cared for was 883. The maximum number present during the fiscal year 1902 was reported as 22,018 and the minimum as 18,298, thus giving an extreme range of 3,720 members, as against 3,433 for the preceding year—an increase of 287. The average age of all the members cared for during the year was reported as 63.90 years, while the average age of those admitted during the fiscal year was 60.62 years.

At the date of inspection the civilian employees of the Home numbered 413, of whom 293 were males and 120 were females. As compared with the previous year this was an increase of 20 males and 24 females.

#### SPANISH WAR VETERANS.

Up to the time of my preceding inspection of the Home 343 Spanish war veterans had been admitted as members, of whom 275 were then present. At the time of my most recent visit there were 398 of them present, a gain of 123 during the year. One hundred and seventy-seven had died or been dropped or discharged during the year.

#### DISCIPLINE.

It was found that punishments for similar offenses vary at different Branches—governors punishing differently for the same offense.

There should be a standard of discipline, and the same punishment should everywhere be meted out for the same offense. These matters appear to be left too much to the discretion of the various governors. The same order or instructions should be issued to all by the Board of Managers prescribing the limits of punishment for offenders tried before the governor. Some of them now consider all previous offenses in trying a man, without reference to time, and others consider the time that has elapsed since the prisoner last offended.

Improved discipline is reported at all the Branches where competition has been tried, and it should be tried at all of them.

#### BRANCH OFFICERS.

A decided lack of familiarity with the Home regulations was observable, and a system of recitations on this subject would be very desirable. The necessity for this publication was very apparent for a long time, and now that an excellent compilation has been made, published, and distributed, the officers who are to use them should be tested in their knowledge of them. If these officers are thoroughly familiar with the regulations, it is not doubted that the correspondence between the central office and some of the Branches would be diminished.

Some of the new treasurers delegate too much of their duties to clerks, and do not seem to learn their duties readily. Unfortunately in the case of several old chief clerks, they take advantage of the situation, and do not do their duties so satisfactorily as when under an experienced treasurer.

It is believed that a deputy governor should be appointed at the Central Branch, where the population is so large and the duties so varied and numerous as to make more work than any one governor should be required or expected to attend to, but at no other branch, unless it should reach a membership of 5,000, which would be unfortunate, as it would be too large for the best administration.

As a rule there was harmony among the officers of the various Branches, though at some of them there was said to be room for improvement in this respect.

The governors and all the other Home officers gave every facility for making the inspections.

#### COMPETITION, UNIFORM METHODS, ETC.

The matter of competition between companies, which has already been referred to, is said to have had none but good results wherever tried, and it has extended to several of the Branches. A very evident increase of interest among the members is thought by the governors of these Branches to be due to these competitions. Much credit, however, is due the central office for more uniform methods of administration and of referring irregularities pertaining to each Branch to the governor of that Branch for correction. This has had a decidedly beneficial effect; but, doubtless, the competitions have had considerable influence for good as well.

The ceremony of saluting the flag at least once each week is recommended for all the Branches, as it is believed that this would have a very good effect.

#### CLOTHING.

An improved condition of clothing, as compared with the preceding inspection, was observed at nearly all the Branches.

## FIRE PROTECTION.

At all the Branches the means of fire protection seemed adequate and generally in good condition, and the fire companies were well drilled and alert. The fire departments of the various Branches stood with fair general credit the test of a thorough inspection and trial. There were no fires at any of the Branches during the year for which the fire departments were called out.

## HOUSING.

There are at all the Branches now occupied a total of 117 barracks, and so far as reported they are all occupied by more members than they were originally intended to accommodate, except at the Danville Branch, which is a new one and not yet full. A large number of the barracks have basements, but at only two of the Branches were there any men (430) sleeping in the basements, and none were sleeping on floors anywhere; but at all but two of the Branches there were men (1,458) sleeping in attics. All the Branches had vacant beds in barracks, ranging in number from 16 at the Marion Branch to 290 at the Danville Branch, and the aggregate of such beds at all the Branches was 918, as against 627 at the previous inspection, an increase of 291. These vacant beds will all be filled in the winter, when many members who have been away return to the Branches.

## FOOD.

The facilities for cooking and serving meals seemed generally satisfactory and adequate, and with but few exceptions the dining halls and kitchens were as neat and clean as could be expected or desired. At none of the Branches are the dining-room facilities sufficient for seating all the members at once, tables having to be set twice, or oftener, at each Branch. The aggregate seating capacity of the dining halls at all of the Branches is only 9,076, while the average population present was 20,501. The seating capacity of these dining halls ranges from 560 at the Pacific Branch to 2,044 at the Central Branch. The facilities seemed everywhere to be ample for receiving and taking care of supplies. Two Branches now have barracks in which the most aged members are quartered by themselves, with a special diet suited to their age and infirmities. Similar barracks are being constructed or are under contemplation at several other Branches.

## THE SICK.

The records show that during the past fiscal year the average daily number of sick was 2,110 in hospital, 635 in convalescent quarters, and 464 in barracks or sick call. This is about 15.6 per cent of the average daily present, as against about 20 per cent for the previous year. The number of patients treated during the year was reported as 27,250, as against 26,438 for the previous year.

There were 1,681 deaths during the year, as against 1,752 for the preceding year; and the average age at death was 67.38 years, as against 68.42 for the fiscal year 1901, a decrease of 0.96 of a year. The death rate per thousand of the average present and absent was 58.53, as against 66.26 for the previous year; and the death rate per thousand of the whole number cared for was 49.61.

The following table, showing the number of deaths, the death rate

per thousand of the whole number cared for, and the average age at death, since 1896, may be useful for purposes of comparison:

	Fiscal year.						
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Number of deaths .....	1,171	1,165	1,189	1,354	1,472	1,752	1,681
Death rate per 1,000 .....	42.83	42.65	42.02	42.40	47.89	54.94	49.61
Average age at death .....	64.42	65.36	65.79	65.83	67.12	68.42	67.88

#### MEDICAL DIRECTOR.

Former recommendations for a medical director are renewed, as being necessary to obtain uniform and the best administration for the large number of sick.

#### DISBURSEMENTS, ETC.

A careful examination of the records, disbursements, and accounts of the Home was made. This included the general, pension, post, and special funds, and the transfers made between the different officers, making an examination of books and papers of no small proportions, which involved an aggregate of \$12,892,311.77, being an increase of \$1,389,471.76 over last year. The following is a tabulation of the same:

Balance on hand last inspection .....	\$1,136,309.69
By Treasury drafts .....	\$5,877,859.51
Transfer from officers .....	5,348,036.97
From sales and other sources .....	530,105.60
	<hr/> 11,756,002.08
Total to be accounted for .....	12,892,311.77
Expended per vouchers .....	7,142,012.27
Transfers to officers .....	3,909,434.28
To credit Treasurer United States .....	760,615.62
	<hr/> 11,812,062.17

Balance on hand ..... 1,080,249.60

This balance was all accounted for and found to be on deposit with the assistant treasurer of the United States, New York City, N. Y., and in designated United States depositories, except the sum of \$789.24 cash on hand.

The transactions in the special funds in the custody of the president of the Board of Managers for the period from October 17, 1901, to October 18, 1902, were as follows:

	Ward fund.	Stinson legacy.	Butler settlement.	Western improvement fund.	Total.
Balance due last inspection .....	\$26,191.47	\$167.58	\$54.88	.....	\$26,413.93
By sale of bonds .....	5,730.00	.....	.....	.....	5,730.00
By interest on bonds .....	530.00	.....	.....	.....	530.00
By interest on deposit .....	163.14	.....	.....	.....	163.14
Return of loan to Western Branch .....	6,000.00	.....	.....	.....	6,000.00
Sale of coal-mining rights at Western Branch .....	.....	.....	.....	\$4,786.84	4,786.84
Total to be accounted for .....	38,614.61	167.58	54.88	4,786.84	43,623.91
Expenditures on vouchers .....	6,430.04	167.58	.....	.....	6,597.62
Transferred to officers .....	69.58	.....	.....	.....	69.58
Sale of bonds .....	6,000.00	.....	.....	.....	6,000.00
Total accounted for .....	12,430.04	167.58	.....	.....	12,597.62
Balance on hand .....	26,184.57	.....	54.88	4,786.84	31,026.29
	<hr/> 38,614.61	<hr/> 167.58	<hr/> 54.88	<hr/> 4,786.84	<hr/> 43,623.91

The balance, consisting of \$17,000 in bonds and \$13,739.52 on deposit, were with the Colonial Trust Company, of New York. In addition to these deposits the sum of \$286.77 was kept in cash on hand.

#### CONCLUSION.

In concluding this report I desire to acknowledge the courteous treatment extended to me during the inspection by both the General and the Branch officers of the Home, all of whom seem imbued with great zeal and earnestness in the performance of their several duties and to have the best interests of the Home at heart.

Except as noted in this report and in the supplementary reports on the Branches in the appendix, the affairs of the Home in general were found in good and satisfactory condition.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. T. KNOX,  
*Lieutenant-Colonel, Inspector-General.*

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL UNITED STATES ARMY.

[First indorsement.]

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
INSPECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
*Washington, December, 12 1902.*

The accompanying report of inspection of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers by Lieutenant-Colonel Knox, of this department, is respectfully forwarded to the Secretary of War, as required by law, under his instructions of June 6–October 10, 1902.

Two ex-presidents of the board, Gen. W. B. Franklin and Gen. William J. Sewell, have terminated their connection with it—one by death and the other by termination of service. How greatly beneficial their services proved through a long course of years deserves the deepest recognition and to be constantly remembered.

The Home is now composed of ten distinct Branches, in different States, established in the following order: Eastern, Central, Northwestern, Southern, Western, Pacific, Marion, Danville, Mountain, and Battle Mountain Sanitarium, the latter two not yet in operation.

The total population on June 30, 1902, including all the Branches, was 27,205, of whom 19,404 were present and 7,801 absent—a net gain of 764 during the year. The average number cared for was 27,070. A gain of 490 was made in the average present at the Home during the year. The average age was 63.90 years. There were 413 civilian employees—male, 293; female, 120.

The average daily number of sick was 2,110 in hospital, 635 in convalescent quarters, and 464 in barracks. There were 1,681 deaths during the year, and the average age at time of death was 67.38 years. The number of deaths has increased since 1896 over 40 per cent, though the rate per thousand has not increased so greatly.

An examination of disbursements, including the general, pension, post, and special funds, with transfers made between the different officers and involving an aggregate of \$12,892,311.77, was made, this being \$1.389.471.76 more than last year.

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE,  
*Inspector-General.*

## APPENDIX A.

### SUBREPORTS CONCERNING THE SEVERAL BRANCH HOMES.

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#### No. 1.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF THE EASTERN BRANCH, MADE JULY 16 TO 21, 1902.

Post-office. National Home, Togus, Me.  
Local manager. Gen. John Marshall Brown, Portland, Me., whose term as a member of the Board of Managers expires in 1908.

Officers. The officers of the Home at the time of my inspection were: Governor, Col. S. H. Allen; treasurer, Maj. A. L. Smith; quartermaster, Capt. W. H. Anderson; commissary of subsistence, with charge of the post fund, Capt. S. J. Gallagher; surgeon, Maj. W. E. Elwell. Since my inspection last year, Captain Gallagher, who was then doing the duty of quartermaster and commissary of subsistence, has been relieved of the duties of quartermaster by the appointment of Captain Anderson to that position, retaining his duties as commissary, and placed in charge of the post fund. This was a necessary rearrangement and a beneficial change for the interest of the Branch. Interest and harmony seem to prevail among the officers, as well as a desire to promote the welfare of the Home. It was found in a very satisfactory condition.

Grounds. The reservation belonging to this Branch is much larger in area than any of the others, and contains in all 1,884 acres. Its attractiveness and beauty make it an object of interest to the residents of Augusta, Me., and the neighboring country, from which there is now an easy access, by steam and electric transportation, that brings large crowds of visitors to hear the concerts and enjoy the grounds. The deer park, which might almost be termed a zoological garden, consists of a number of deer, elk, four monkeys, two black bear, a large number of rabbits and guinea pigs, and furnishes a constant source of interest and amusement to many of the members and visitors. New sentry boxes have been placed around the grounds, for the protection of the guard from the severe and inclement weather, which are much appreciated by the old members who have to do the guard duty.

In order to prevent the main road through the grounds, which is a county road, from continuing to be a main public thoroughfare, a new road, located east of the camp and well removed from any of the buildings, has been constructed and is to be offered to the county, to be used as a public road in lieu of the former one. When the new road is accepted much of the public travel will be diverted from the buildings of the Home grounds. This new road is nearly 1 mile in length, well constructed, and will cost about \$4,200, and will connect the Rockland and Thomaston roads.

A stone-crushing plant has been established at a cost of \$2,350, consisting of storage bins, rock crusher, one 15-horsepower boiler and engine, capable of crushing 120 tons of stone per day. Other plans have been prepared for improving and beautifying the grounds by building roads, planting trees, etc., especially the "meadow" and road passing the new electric-road station. The improvement of the meadow will require the widening, deepening, and straightening of the channel of the Greely Pond Brook, which passes through it, the enlarging of its outlets—as there is a fall of some 18 feet from the general level of the Home to the mouth of the stream—or the building of an embankment to keep out the water during the spring rise. The high water has always been a serious problem at this Branch, and gave trouble last spring, as is usual nearly every spring, carrying away the earth at both ends of the stone wall at the reservoir, and causing such damage that it was necessary to tear down and rebuild the wall. The solution of the problem of keeping out the high water is troublesome, and the proposed plan of an embankment for the improvement of the meadow may be difficult, as it is thought that a firm foundation for an embankment can not well be found when it is remembered that extensive piling was required for the foundations of the buildings on the edge of the meadow.

Although expensive, but not so much so as the embankment, probably the best method is to deepen the outlet of Greely Pond Brook.

When completed, these improvements will add much to the appearance of the grounds, and if anticipations are realized much available ground for buildings and other improvements will be secured.

The grading of a plot of ground for a new cemetery, with the necessary approaches, driveways, and walks, is now in progress at a cost of \$3,000.

#### Buildings.

The buildings presented an attractive appearance at this Branch and were generally found to be in a good condition, but in the barracks in the old buildings the walls and floors were not satisfactory, and owing to the deficient ventilation it is difficult to make satisfactory barracks of them. Some of the very objectionable closets formerly referred to have been replaced by new ones, but a few of the old ones still remain. During the last fiscal year new quarters have been built and furnished for the commissary of subsistence at a cost of \$5,500 and new refrigerator and cold-storage rooms built at a cost of \$4,600. The governor's offices, the front of the hospital, Company G barracks, and the nurses' quarters have been repainted.

The improvements contemplated for the current year consist in a new canteen, a new conservatory, a barrack building to accommodate 200 men, and a guard barrack.

The following improvements have been asked for in the estimate for appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904: Quartermaster's storehouse and equipment, at \$25,000; paint shop, at \$1,000; gateways and lodges for main entrances, at \$5,264; barn, at \$10,000; greenhouse, at \$12,000; repairs to hospital boiler room including chimney, at \$4,000.

#### Population.

The average present and absent during the year was 2,767, an increase of 10 over last year; and of these 2,188 were the average present at the Home, or 4 less than the average present last year. The total number present and



absent on June 30, 1902, was 2,793, or 31 more than last year. The highest number present during the year was 2,308, on March 20, 1902, and the lowest number present was 1,934, on July 4, 1901. The highest number absent was 835, on June 28, 1902, and the lowest, 438, on March 20, 1902. The average temporarily cared for during the year was 3; the total number cared for during the year was 3,133, or 46 less than last year. The average age of the members for the past year was 65.43 years, or 4.44 years older than the average for the preceding year, and is the next to highest average of all the Branches. The average age of the members who have been admitted during the year was 60.68 years.

The number of the Spanish war members still continues small, there being but 16 at the Home on June 30, 1902, or 2 more than the same time last year. During the year 10 were admitted, 1 was readmitted, and the loss by death was 2, by discharge 4, by dropped from rolls 3.

The review of the members was held on July 19, 1902. There were 5 officers and 930 members in line, not including the band of 25 men, or a decrease of 146 members from last review. This ceremony was the best seen at this Branch, the clothing being clean and neat, the shoes polished, the officers marching with the men. The prescribed letters for the uniform collars were not worn by the treasurer, the quartermaster, nor the commissary of subsistence.

The discipline during the past year is reported as  
 Discipline. being very good, 86.02 per cent of the members having committed no offense. The principal offenses were

drunkenness, for which there were 195 trials, and absence without leave, for which there were 185 trials. None of the members were tried for fence jumping, and there were 238 trials for various other offenses. The total number of trials during the year was 618. The greatest number drunk in one day was 24, on September 19, 1901, subsequent to a pension day.

There are many and varied facilities afforded the old men at this Branch, consisting of a good theater with a seating capacity for 1,100, in which many of the principal theatrical troupes are employed during the season to give performances. There were 44 performances given during the year, at a cost of \$7,085. No charge is made for these to the members of the Home, but others are charged 15 cents. The character of these performances was comedies, melodramas, and tragedies. This theater is also used for lectures and concerts by the band when the weather does not permit of the open-air concerts.

The average strength of the band was 24 men, 2 of whom were members of the Home. The cost to the Home for the year, including subsistence and other allowances of civilians, amounted to \$9,825.76. This was an average cost of \$409.40 per musician, the highest cost of all the Branches. The average cost per concert was \$32.22, and the average annual cost per member present was \$4.49, the next to largest cost of all the Branches. The number of concerts given indoors was 185, and out of doors 120. These concerts were reported to be well attended. Those given out of doors were given in the two band stands located in different parts of the grounds. The class of music rendered was classic, popular, and patriotic, and was well executed under the able leadership of Mr. B. M. Thieme, who deserves much praise for the training of this band, which continues in its former

minor child, or dependent parent be discovered within one year from the time of the death of the pensioner, said balance shall be paid to the post fund at the Branch of said National Home of which the pensioner was a member at the time of his death, to be used for the common benefit of the members of the Home under the direction of the Board of Managers, subject to future reclamation by the relatives hereinbefore designated, upon application filed with the Board of Managers within five years after the pensioner's death.

#### POPULATION.

The total number of members, present and absent, at the several Branches of the Home on June 30, 1902, was 27,205, of whom 19,404 were present and 7,801 absent—a net gain of 764 during the year. The gain and loss, by Branches during the year were as follows:

#### Gains:

Eastern Branch .....	31
Western Branch .....	249
Pacific Branch .....	90
Northwestern Branch .....	42
Danville Branch .....	777
Marion Branch .....	76
Central Branch .....	9

Total .....	1,274
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#### Loss:

Southern Branch .....	510
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Net gain .....	764
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The large apparent gain at the Danville Branch is due to the fact that it is a new Branch, and just now in the process of filling up with members. The loss at the Southern Branch was occasioned by the overcrowded condition, which necessitated the stoppage of admissions, and the transfer of many members to other Branches.

The average number of members cared for during the year was 27,079, of whom 20,501 were the average present and 6,578 were the average absent, and the total number cared for was 32,767. As compared with the preceding year the gain in the average present was 490 and the gain in the total number cared for was 883. The maximum number present during the fiscal year 1902 was reported as 22,018 and the minimum as 18,298, thus giving an extreme range of 3,720 members, as against 3,433 for the preceding year—an increase of 287. The average age of all the members cared for during the year was reported as 63.90 years, while the average age of those admitted during the fiscal year was 60.62 years.

At the date of inspection the civilian employees of the Home numbered 413, of whom 293 were males and 120 were females. As compared with the previous year this was an increase of 20 males and 24 females.

#### SPANISH WAR VETERANS.

Up to the time of my preceding inspection of the Home 343 Spanish war veterans had been admitted as members, of whom 275 were then present. At the time of my most recent visit there were 398 of them present, a gain of 123 during the year. One hundred and seventy-seven had died or been dropped or discharged during the year.

#### DISCIPLINE.

It was found that punishments for similar offenses vary at different Branches—governors punishing differently for the same offense.

There should be a standard of discipline, and the same punishment should everywhere be meted out for the same offense. These matters appear to be left too much to the discretion of the various governors. The same order or instructions should be issued to all by the Board of Managers prescribing the limits of punishment for offenders tried before the governor. Some of them now consider all previous offenses in trying a man, without reference to time, and others consider the time that has elapsed since the prisoner last offended.

Improved discipline is reported at all the Branches where competition has been tried, and it should be tried at all of them.

#### BRANCH OFFICERS.

A decided lack of familiarity with the Home regulations was observable, and a system of recitations on this subject would be very desirable. The necessity for this publication was very apparent for a long time, and now that an excellent compilation has been made, published, and distributed, the officers who are to use them should be tested in their knowledge of them. If these officers are thoroughly familiar with the regulations, it is not doubted that the correspondence between the central office and some of the Branches would be diminished.

Some of the new treasurers delegate too much of their duties to clerks, and do not seem to learn their duties readily. Unfortunately in the case of several old chief clerks, they take advantage of the situation, and do not do their duties so satisfactorily as when under an experienced treasurer.

It is believed that a deputy governor should be appointed at the Central Branch, where the population is so large and the duties so varied and numerous as to make more work than any one governor should be required or expected to attend to, but at no other branch, unless it should reach a membership of 5,000, which would be unfortunate, as it would be too large for the best administration.

As a rule there was harmony among the officers of the various Branches, though at some of them there was said to be room for improvement in this respect.

The governors and all the other Home officers gave every facility for making the inspections.

#### COMPETITION, UNIFORM METHODS, ETC.

The matter of competition between companies, which has already been referred to, is said to have had none but good results wherever tried, and it has extended to several of the Branches. A very evident increase of interest among the members is thought by the governors of these Branches to be due to these competitions. Much credit, however, is due the central office for more uniform methods of administration and of referring irregularities pertaining to each Branch to the governor of that Branch for correction. This has had a decidedly beneficial effect; but, doubtless, the competitions have had considerable influence for good as well.

The ceremony of saluting the flag at least once each week is recommended for all the Branches, as it is believed that this would have a very good effect.

#### CLOTHING.

An improved condition of clothing, as compared with the preceding inspection, was observed at nearly all the Branches.

The storage facilities appear ample, but located too far apart, some being stored in the hospital, the mess hall, and the basements of barracks.

The clothing was inspected and found satisfactory, and the accounts for the year were stated as follows:

Clothing.	
Received from depot .....	\$21,559.62
Received from other places .....	592.39
Issued .....	22,740.21
Inspected and condemned .....	26,875.62

The laundry was inspected and does not seem fully equipped when compared with the other Branches.

Two new washing machines have replaced the two old and worn-out ones, but the laundry needs more floor space and modern improvements. The average number of pieces laundered per month was 59,658, and this is the largest number of all the Branches, excepting the Central. The expense for the labor and material for the year was \$2,033.70, the smallest cost of any Branch.

The number employed in the laundry was 14, the next to smallest number employed at any other Branch on this work. The management of this laundry deserves praise for such good results.

The fire department was fully tested, including the fire hydrants, with hose, the chemical engines, and the hand fire extinguishers. All were found to be in good order and to stand all tests satisfactorily, and the fire department responded promptly to the alarm. The latter is a well organized and drilled body of 17 men, and they are assisted by an auxiliary force of from 8 or more men in each barrack and the hospital. No fires occurred during the year.

The average number of employees under the engineer department during the year was 36 members and 16 civilians. There are 8 shops, the accounts of which are under the charge of the quartermaster. The steam plant consists of five 75-horsepower boilers in the power house and three 65-horsepower boilers in the hospital boiler house. The cost for maintenance for the past year was \$28,030.

There is no electric nor ice plant at this Branch, the electric current being bought from the Kennebec Light and Heat Company, at a cost of \$6,932.25, and the ice is harvested from the pond located on the Home grounds for that purpose. The cost of this ice is 14 cents per ton, the cheapest ice of all the Branches, one of them (the Danville) paying \$4 per ton for their ice.

The water system has been improved by the construction by the Augusta Water Company of a large standpipe nearly 100 feet above the main level of the Home grounds, having a capacity of 320,000 gallons and an 18-inch supply pipe. But in winter the pressure is too low.

This department was found on inspection to be well managed and in good order. Inventories are taken monthly. The dining hall and kitchen were in good condition and are inspected every two weeks by the surgeon. The dining hall has a capacity for 1,052 men, and, as is the case at all the Branches, the tables have to be set twice at each meal in order to

accommodate all the members. There are on an average 19 employees in the kitchen and 59 in the dining hall. The latter and the kitchen still appear not free from roaches.

Now that the duties of the quartermaster and commissary are performed by different officers, the five days' rations should be taken from the storehouse and kept in the mess hall.

The bill of fare for a week was as follows:

*Bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902.*

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Baked beans, brown and white bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Beef fricassee, potatoes, succotash, apple pie, cheese, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Tomato sauce, bread, butter, sirup, and tea.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Mackerel, potatoes, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Boiled ham, potatoes, lima beans, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Boiled rice, bread, butter, sirup, and tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Pigs' feet, potatoes, corn cake, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Mutton stew, crackers, pickles, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Apple sauce, bread, butter, sirup, and tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Baked beans, graham and white bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Corned beef, potatoes, beets, turnips, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Corn meal mush, bread, butter, sirup, and tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Meat hash, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Roast veal, potatoes, onions, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Ginger cake, cheese, bread, butter, sirup, and tea.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Codfish hash, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Salt cod and pork scraps, potatoes, pudding, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Prune sauce, bread, butter, sirup, and tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Bacon and eggs, potatoes, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Beef soup, crackers, pickles, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Rolled oats, bread, butter, sirup, and tea.

The hospital has a capacity for 363 patients, is well managed, and was found in good condition, due to the efficient administration of the surgeon, Maj. J. W. E. Elwell. It had been repainted in about one-half of the interior and improved in other ways, such as the setting of 10 bath tubs, new toilet rooms, etc., and was very satisfactory with the exception of some of the walls, which were not entirely clean. There were 2,647 patients treated during the year, and the average number of patients per day at the hospital was 322. There were 107 deaths at the hospital, 2 elsewhere on the reservation, and 28 outside the Home, or a total of 137 during the year. The average age of these members at the time of death was 69 years. One of these deaths was the result of suicide. The cost of a funeral at this Branch was \$25.75, the next to the largest cost of all the Branches. The average number of employees in the

hospital was 85 members and 15 civilians, who received on an average \$191.37 each per annum.

The cemetery at this Branch, which has always been a cause of much trouble and expense on account of the rock underlying it, is to be changed from the rocky hill, where the graves have to be prepared by blasting, to a site beyond the "Meadow," where no rock will be encountered, and which is now being graded.

In the old cemetery there are still many headstones required for the graves.

The inspection of the accounts and records of the Branch show the following:

The time books were not in a very satisfactory condition owing to erasures after the record had been made. As the quartermaster is charged with the duty of keeping the time of the employees and record of the duty upon which they are employed, would it not seem more in line for that officer to make up the pay roll and certify it to the treasurer for payment, who could certify as to its payment, the only fact known to him? This method would save duplication of work in the treasurer's office.

In very many cases the amount turned over to the treasurer as money found on the person of the deceased members was in even dollars.

Owing to breaking down of the cash register at the store the receipts reported from there could not be tested by it.

As it is usual for the clerk who issues the transportation coupons to make the record and to check them when returned for payment, it would seem advisable that all moneys paid for such coupons be paid directly to the treasurer or some other official.

The balance of pension fund on hand on June 30, 1902, was \$10,569.56. Of this amount only \$4,006.91 was held for members now in the Home; \$1,820.80 was a balance due to former members whose whereabouts, after diligent inquiry, could not be ascertained. Some items have been outstanding since 1891, and none later than 1898. The remaining sum, \$4,741.85, is interest accrued on bonds in which the surplus pension money had been invested, as these bonds have long been sold and there are no claimants for the amount.

The practice, found at this and some of the other Branches, of entering on the pension cashbook only the total of pension agents' abstracts, and posting to the pension ledger the credits of each pensioner direct from the abstract, seems to be expedient, less liable to error, and much less laborious than the practice at some of the Branches of entering the abstract in full in the cashbook.

The general-fund ledger seems to be a duplicate as to entries of the journal. Why should not the total purchases or receipts under each head for each day be posted to the ledger in one sum? The purpose of a ledger in the scheme of keeping accounts is to show balances, while that of the journal, when kept as a daybook, is to show the items that make up the account.

A large amount of clothing seems to be on hand awaiting the action of an inspector; 192 pair of shoes are reported as lost or destroyed since August 23, 1899, and no action seemed to be taken to relieve the record. The manner in which the record of the imperishable property should be kept does not seem to be understood.

There seemed to be no check upon the bakery. The daily report of the baker, a mere memorandum slip, was accepted as to the quantity of articles fabricated in the bakery, and apparently no test was made as to whether all material turned over to the bake shop was accounted for. It was noted that the amount of bread, etc., fabricated each ten days was always issued during that period, no balance on hand being shown.

Possibly the variations in the following statement from the record may be explained:

Month.	Bread.	Biscuit, etc.	Pies.	Cost.
1901.				
July.....	32,638	5,072	1,920	\$972.90
September.....	36,466	3,978	2,750	992.76
December.....	32,827	5,484	2,805	1,002.74
1902.				
January.....	35,696	5,124	2,244	1,058.21
February.....	33,846	4,680	2,284	1,051.19

It would seem from the above that it cost only about \$20 more to fabricate 3,800 more pounds of bread in September than in July, and \$10 more to fabricate over 4,000 less pounds in December than in September.

The record book for applications for admission is used not for the apparent purposes of the record applications for admission, but the names of all persons admitted, and thus duplicating data necessarily recorded in the historical register. Applications for membership are kept on a memorandum slip. All data recorded in the burial record is also recorded in the historical record. This latter record seems to be the logical record for matters pertaining to the member's history, and the entry of such facts elsewhere seems to be an unnecessary duplication of clerical work and cumbersome to the files.

Matters not commented upon were found to be satisfactory.

#### NO. 2.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF THE BATTLE MOUNTAIN SANITARIUM FOR DISABLED VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS, MADE AUGUST 4, 1902.

The following act of Congress provides for the location of a national sanitarium which is to be under the control of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers:

*Be it enacted by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That one hundred and fifty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for the erection of a national sanitarium for disabled volunteer soldiers at Hot Springs, in the State of South Dakota, which shall be erected by and under the direction of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, which sanitarium, when in a condition to receive members, shall be subject to such rules, regulations, and restrictions as shall be provided by said Board of Managers: *Provided,* That such sanitarium shall be erected on land donated to the United States by the people of Hot Springs, South Dakota, and accompanied with a deed of perpetual lease to one or more of the medical or hot springs for the use of the above-named sanitarium, the location and area of the land and springs of hot water to be selected by the Board of Managers of the National Home for Dis-

abled Volunteer Soldiers, or such persons as they may appoint to make the selection of location and hot springs, and that exclusive jurisdiction shall be vested in said Board of Managers over the premises occupied by said sanitarium as over other realty held by said Board until further enactment by the Congress of the United States.

SEC. 2. That the further sum of twenty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, to be used for the transportation to and from said sanitarium of such patients as may be ordered to said sanitarium by said Board of Managers and for equipping and maintaining said sanitarium, subject to the aforesaid rules and regulations of said Board of Managers: *Provided*, That any member of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers who shall be certified to said sanitarium by the medical and legal authorities of said Board of Managers shall be admitted and treated thereat until discharged therefrom or returned to some Branch of the National Home by order of said Board of Managers.

Approved, May 29, 1902.

The town of Hot Springs is one of the principal towns of Fall River County, S. Dak., and is in the extreme southwestern portion of the State near the Black Hills.

After a careful personal inspection of the ground by the Board of Managers, a site was selected which was locally known as the "Central Site," which the people of Hot Springs, S. Dak., had offered to donate and which was located to the north and east of Eleventh street. A deed of perpetual lease to one or more of the hot mineral springs, located near the site, which was also offered, was accepted by the Board.

The site contains over 100 acres of land, is very near the town of Hot Springs, and can be reached by two lines of railroads, viz, the Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad, and by the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad. It is on a commanding bluff over 100 feet above the town, along the main street, from which the surrounding country is in full view, and is very convenient, being practically in the town.

The landscape surrounding the town is very attractive, and after the completion of the buildings this site will equal in beauty any of the Branches of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

The springs are said to have strong curative properties, especially for rheumatism and skin diseases, and will undoubtedly prove beneficial to the many members who are now suffering from rheumatism at the various Branches of the National Home.

### NO. 3.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF THE PACIFIC BRANCH, MADE AUGUST 7 TO 10, 1902.

Post-office.	Soldiers' Home, Los Angeles County, Cal.
Local manager.	Maj. William Bonsall, Los Angeles, Cal., is local manager of this Branch. His term of office expires in 1904.
Officers.	Governor, Gen. O. H. La Grange; treasurer, Maj. T. J. J. Cochrane; surgeon, Maj. H. E. Hasse; quar-master and commissary, Capt. S. F. Reber.

These are the same officers who were on duty at the time of my inspection of this Branch in 1901, except that Capt. S. F. Reber had succeeded Maj. J. H. Simpson (resigned) as quartermaster and commissary. Captain Reber's appointment took effect on October 1, 1901. In area this is next to the largest of the Branches.

The reservation consists of 737 acres of land. The general appearance of the Branch, including grounds, roads, and buildings, was satisfactory. Many new trees have been planted on those portions of the grounds which for-



merly were bare, or not otherwise occupied, and these have added very materially to the attractive appearance of the grounds. The new gutters along the roadways, which were in process of construction at my preceding inspection, have been completed, and they serve a very useful purpose in carrying off the surplus water from rains, thus affording a good drainage, and affording the grounds a more rapid means of recovery from the ill effects of rain storms than would otherwise be possible. Fifty new iron benches, it was stated, are soon to be placed about the grounds in convenient locations, and these will undoubtedly prove a very satisfactory improvement. A large aviary has recently been constructed, and has been stocked with quite a number and variety of birds.

The barracks, nine in number, are of wood, and were found in a condition much improved over that of last year, being more clean, neat, and orderly. There are beautiful gardens of semitropical plants and flowers on the grounds in front of each barrack, and there was a noticeable effort among the occupants of the various barracks to the end that their particular gardens should be the best and most attractive of all. One objection was noticed, however, to the otherwise very satisfactory condition of the barracks, and that was in those having the unceiled attics a number of smoking pipes were found under the eaves of the roofs, adding much to the danger of fire. Until these attics are plastered, smoking in them should be forbidden. I have been informed by the governor that instructions would be issued to prohibit smoking in the attics so long as they are unceiled.

An experiment has been tried here to prevent the introduction and keeping, against orders, of unauthorized articles under the beds, such as gripsacks, valises, boxes, and other articles, and the experiment has been found to work successfully. This practice of keeping unauthorized articles under the beds has been found a troublesome one at many Branches. At this Branch, after due notice, if the orders are violated the articles are taken from the owner, and kept from him for a limited time. A second or third similar offense increases the time during which the owner is deprived of the possession of his property. This course has proven successful in making the members keep such articles in the authorized storeroom provided for them, which is abundantly large and conveniently located, and has added to the sightliness of the appearance of the barracks.

The barracks are of frame, two stories and an attic; and while they were originally intended to accommodate 100 men, each of them was actually occupied by 175. Five of them have basements, which are used as storerooms. None of the members were sleeping in basements, or on floors, or in other places not originally intended for sleeping, except that 331 men were sleeping in attics. The dormitory floor space per man in square feet is, highest, 100.6; lowest, 68.7; average, 80.1. The dormitory air space per man in cubic feet is, highest, 1,190.6; lowest, 672.2; average, 897.5. The dormitory window space per man in square feet is, highest, 15.5; lowest, 5.6; average, 11.3. Five of the barracks have 3 bath tubs each, and 4 barracks have 4 bath tubs each—all conveniently located for the use of the members; and there are no other bath tubs for barrack use. The average number of men to each bath tub is 58; and as a rule the men bathe about once a week. There are 5 toilet rooms and urinals in each barrack; average number of men to each urinal, 34; to each hopper, 18.

The system of ventilation of the barracks is open fireplaces, globe ventilators, and registers connected with air shafts. They are heated by steam, indirect radiation; and they are lighted by electricity obtained from Santa Monica, incandescent and arc lights being used.

The condition of the beds and lockers was found to be good.

The following permanent improvements for this Branch were completed during the year: Addition to hospital dining room and kitchen, \$10,939; cement conduit, \$4,425; reflooring two barracks, \$3,147; remodeling 75-horsepower engine, \$369; laying pipe to cemetery, \$475; total, \$19,355.

The following constructions have been estimated for for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, viz, two additional barracks at \$61,000, additional wing to hospital and detention ward at \$25,000, new boilers and pumps at \$16,100, band stand at \$3,000.

A conservatory, although not needed to protect plants and flowers from cold, still is needed for propagating purposes. The present conservatory is a very old and dilapidated wooden building, and is unsightly, and something better is needed.

As compared with the close of the preceding fiscal year, the total present and absent on June 30, 1902, showed a net gain of 90 members. The gain and loss in membership may be indicated as follows:

Population.	
Gain:	
By first admission.....	304
By readmission .....	100
By transfer from other Homes .....	11
	415
Loss:	
By transfer to other Homes.....	19
By discharge.....	103
By honorable discharge .....	4
By dropped from rolls.....	20
By death .....	175
By transfer to insane asylums .....	4
	325
Net gain .....	90

The average number of officers and members present and absent during the year was 2,639, of whom 1,832 was the average present and 807 the average absent. The average number present during the year was greater by 100 members than for the preceding year. The greatest number of members present at any one time was 1,909, on December 10, 1901, and the lowest was 1,709, on June 29, 1902, giving an extreme range of 200 members. The highest number absent during the year was 941, on June 19, 1902, and the lowest was 721, on March 4, 1902. There was an average of 33 members temporarily cared for—much the largest of all the Branches—and the total number cared for during the year was 2,997, and they were of an average age of 61.82 years—the youngest of all Branches.

The number of men admitted to this Branch from the Spanish war and Philippine insurrection is 86, of whom 15 have died, 1 has been transferred, 12 honorably discharged, and 2 dropped from the rolls, leaving a total of 56 borne on the rolls, at the time of inspection, as against 45 for the preceding year.

At the time of inspection there was a total of 1,790 officers and members present and 928 members absent. A review was held on

August 10, 1902, at which time the total number of officers and members and band in camp was 1,761, and the number in line at review was 1,115, all of whom were in uniform. The officers marched with the men. The inspection and review was satisfactory. Some of the officers had no letters on the collars of their blouses. The clothing of the members was generally clean and satisfactory. The band, however, is the poorest and smallest at any of the Branches, and has been found so at all previous inspections. The march played closely resembled a funeral march, there being an entire absence of life and spirit in the music. A drum major would relieve the leader from those duties and allow him to give more of his time as leader and to the music.

**Discipline.** The discipline at this Branch, although improved from that of last year, has not reached the standard of the best administered Branches. An over consideration to offenders is apparent. Uniform and just firmness seems desired, and a greater degree of harmony among the officers would be practicable and desirable.

The principal offenses are drunk and disorderly and absence without leave. It was reported that the total number of members offending was 80, while 2,917 (95 per cent) committed no offense, which is the highest of all the Branches. There were 210 trials, of which 91 were for drunkenness (the smallest at any Branch), 1 for fence-jumping, 70 for absence without leave, and 38 for other offenses. Fifteen members were tried twice and 15 more than twice. No fines were imposed. The greatest number drunk in one day was five, much the smallest of all Branches. The longest sentence served was twenty days. No members were in confinement at the time of inspection. The guard-house was in good condition, and is located about 100 feet from Barrack I.

**Amusements.** Although in many respects this Branch has received full consideration, and has been well treated when compared with the other Branches, in regard to amusements, it has not fared well, as it has practically no facilities for the amusement of the men. This want is strikingly noticeable when compared with the very handsome clubhouse at the Central Branch. The Pacific Branch has no room for billiards or pool, no rooms for cards, chess, checkers, dominos, or other similar games, nor is there any bowling alley; but this latter is not recommended, as the exercise might be too great, for a general opinion exists at this Branch, even among some of the officers—and such opinions were expressed to me—that the effect of the climate is such that it produces lassitude, and the men are little inclined to exercise, and are, in many cases, enervated. There is little inclination to do more labor than necessary. Still, it is believed that an amusement hall containing rooms for billiards and pool and tables for cards and other games is much desired for diversion and amusement.

There is a theater, a library, a band, and the new aviary, and cards are played. An effort was made during the year, it was stated, to enlarge the scope of amusements by affording a better class of entertainments in the theater.

The library, it was reported, contained 4,017 volumes, the other Home libraries contain not less than twice this number; and 32 newspapers and 12 magazines are furnished it free of cost, the only Branch that does not subscribe to them. During the year 1,198 volumes were

Of the disbursements, \$188,345.31 was made by check, and \$80,305.27 was paid in currency. There was received on the posthumous account the sum of \$3,873.59, and there was paid out \$1,708.32, leaving a balance for the year under this account of \$2,165.27.

The number of open-market purchases made during the year was 135, amounting to \$3,801.76.

The daily average number of employees under the general fund was 456, of whom 4 were officers, 17 noncommissioned officers, 385 members, and 50 civilians. The total amount paid them was \$80,305.27, as follows: Officers, \$8,862.27; noncommissioned officers, \$4,680.66; members, \$43,043.47; civilians, \$23,718.64. As compared with the preceding year, there was an increase of 35 members and 14 civilians in this force, and a decrease of 1 noncommissioned officer, a total increase of 48. During the year 1,205 men, an average of 4 per day, worked without pay, not as a penalty, being generally employed in the vegetable gardens and on fatigue duty, etc.

The average cost of maintenance per capita at this Branch for the fiscal year 1902 was reported as \$126.96.

During the year the transactions of the post fund included receipts of \$42,919.95, of which the restaurant took in \$16,615.70 and the beer hall \$26,304.25. There were also receipts of \$8,394.40 from transportation, \$100.30 from amusements, and \$223.30 from other sources, a grand total of receipts of \$57,637.95. The total expenditures were \$56,015.23, of which \$26,398.74 was for stock for the store. The amount of net profit for the year under this fund was \$5,191.35.

Beer is bought by contract, and 53,077 gallons were sold during the year. It cost \$11,631 and sold for \$26,304.25, a profit of \$14,673.25. The average amount received for a barrel of beer was \$15.60, the next to the largest of all the Branches, but the reported percentage of profit does not compare favorably with the other Branches. There was sold during the year 5,299 gallons of beer more than was sold the preceding year.

At the Home store a cash register is used to record all sales, and the cash received is collected daily by the treasurer or his chief clerk. At the beer hall the treasurer issues tickets to the cashier, who sells the tickets to the members, receiving cash for them, and accounting to the treasurer daily for the tickets issued to him. The purchaser delivers the tickets to the beer seller, who drops it into the slot of a locked box containing a solution of analine dye. The tickets are taken out every day by the treasurer or his chief clerk and destroyed.

The average daily number of employees under the post fund is 33, the smallest of all Branches—22 members and 11 civilians; and the total amount paid them during the year was \$7,265.50. Civilians received an average of \$1.08, and members 38 cents per day. As compared with the preceding year, there was an increase of 8 employees under this fund—4 members and 4 civilians.

The number of pensioners on the rolls at this Branch on June 30, 1902, was 2,367—which is about 89 per cent of the total membership, present and absent, at that date—the smallest of all Branches. Of these pensioners, 1,589 were present at the Branch. The total amount of pension money

Post fund.

Pension fund.

received by the treasurer during the fiscal year 1902 was \$290,235.15, of which he paid out the sum of \$289,738.41; and of this, \$189,020.41 was in currency, and \$100,718 by check. The balance due pensioners was \$6,254.73; and this belonged to 79 pensioners, 60 of whom had balances of less than \$100 each to their credit; 17 had balances of between \$100 and \$500; and 2 had balances of between \$500 and \$1,000.

The most usual rate of pension here is \$12 per month, 956 members receiving that sum; 450 receive \$6 per month; 579 receive \$8 per month; 216 receive \$10 per month. The highest rate drawn at this Branch is \$50 per month, and it is received by one member only. Two clerks are employed on pension business for which they receive \$1,440 per year, highest salary for two clerks of any other Branch. During the year \$72,752.05 in pensions was paid to absentee members of the Branch.

The value of quartermaster stores (current supplies) on hand June 30, 1902, was reported as \$11,722.62.

All property received is inspected by a board of inspectors who render a report to the governor. The amount received from sales of condemned quartermaster property during the year was \$1,654.60.

The value of the clothing received from the depot during the year was reported as \$5,711.92, or about one-fifth of the average received by the other Branches. Clothing to the value of \$17,710.37 was inspected and condemned during the year. This is an average of \$9.67 per man of the average population present, as against \$11.34 for the previous year. The value of the clothing issued during the year was reported as \$7,508.80, as against \$7,956.60 for the previous year.

The average length of time the different articles are worn before being cast off are: Blouses, one year; caps, eighteen months; dress coats, two and one-half years; great coats, five years; drawers and shirts, six months; trousers, shoes, hats, and suspenders, one year; gloves and socks, three months.

The laundry is well located and was found in good condition, but is of insufficient capacity. Members are required to change weekly all soiled clothing and send it to the laundry, and there is no restriction as to the amount each member may send. Their private underwear is laundried on the same conditions as Home clothing. During the past year \$1,538 was expended in the laundry for labor and \$852.62 for materials. An average of 52,277 pieces per month was laundried. Thirteen men are employed in the laundry, which is the smallest employed at any other Branch.

No fires occurred at this Branch during the past year. The fire department was found to be in good condition, including the hooks and ladders, and responded promptly to an alarm. The ladders were raised promptly to the top of Memorial Hall. The band, which belongs to the fire department, had to leave a funeral procession to attend the alarm. It should be stated that when the alarm was requested it was not known that a funeral was in progress. The hose of the chemical engine burst during the fire drill.

The protection against fire consists of 32 fire hydrants, 4,250 feet of 2½-inch fire hose, 2 60-gallon Rex chemical engines, 1 hose cart and

reel, 1 temporary extension ladder truck or cart, 1 50-foot extension ladder, 3 30-foot ladders, 3 20-foot roof ladders, 151 3-gallon chemical extinguishers, and a large quantity of fire buckets. There are also several other ladders, but mostly old and unserviceable, and unfit for fire protection. With this exception the apparatus is in good condition and adequate. Approximately, one-half of the fire hose, it was reported, has been in use for seven years and requires replacing with new. A light ladder truck suitable for men to handle would be a useful addition to the apparatus; also 3 more hydrants—one to be located at the canteen, and one at the farmers' mess house, and one at the clerks' cottage. Twelve additional ladders were also said to be needed to be placed at buildings that are located at some distance from the fire-fighting apparatus. This apparatus is tested every first and third Saturday in each month. The strength of the fire company is composed of 50 members and 25 civilians and consists of the guards, company commanders, orderlies, handsman, and civilian employees.

The shops of the engineer department consist of blacksmith, plumbers', and steam fitters', and tin shops, which are in one temporary structure located west of the power house; the carpenter shop, located in the laundry building, and the paint shop, in the temporary structure west of the carpenter shop.

Water is furnished this Branch by the gravity system from the Los Angeles Water Company, and it was reported as being quite satisfactory in every respect. No drainage is required here except for the roofs and drainage for the surface of the ground. The roof drains have mostly been carried over the bluff, just east of the buildings, and the flow emptied at the foot of the bluff. For surface drainage, 2,217 linear feet of cement gutter have been laid during the past year; also 1,215 feet of vitrified tile pipe for crossing. The system was still unfinished at the time of inspection, requiring additional pipe for roof drains, and their completion around buildings, and a continuation of the cement conduit gutters and drains. The lines of sewers, with the exception of the hospital and one from the residences, are combined into one near the power house, and the sewage pours into the septic tanks and passes away from the tanks in liquid form to the alfalfa fields and the gardens. They can be improved by extension and completion, and the sewers by an additional septic tank for use on the hospital line.

The steam plant consists of 3 water-tube boilers, 100 horsepower each; 5 tubular returnable boilers, 50 horsepower; 1 locomotive fire-box boiler, 15 horsepower; one 30-horsepower engine, one 75-horsepower engine, for running laundry, carpenter shop, and machines in power house; 1 small 6-horsepower engine, for running meat chopper, coffee mill, and dough mixer; 3 air compressors, 1 heater, 1 condenser and heater, duplicate pumps, piping, etc. The steam plant is used for the purpose of propelling machinery, cooking and baking food, heating buildings, and for laundry purposes. It was reported to have cost \$39,725, and the cost of maintaining it during the past fiscal year was \$14,339.45—a cost per horsepower of \$101.12. There are at the Branch 2,670,776 cubic feet of air space to be heated.

The lighting plant consists of one 25-light (arc) transformer and a system of poles and wiring, switches, meters, arc and incandescent lights.

It was reported to have cost \$7,500, and was maintained during the past fiscal year at a cost of \$7,541.60. There are 25 arc lights and 2,750 incandescent lights.

The cold-storage and ice plant consists of 1 tank for making ice, condensing coils and cooling rooms at the main kitchen, coils and cooling rooms at the canteen, and one 5-ton compressor (ammonia), and one 8-ton ammonia compressing system of piping, boxing, etc. Eighteen thousand eight hundred and sixty cubic feet of air space are cooled. The cost of the ice plant was said to have been \$13,501, and the cost of its maintenance for the past fiscal year was \$3,471. It has a capacity for making 1,200 pounds of ice daily, and the cost per ton for making it was reported as \$2.70, which is excessive when compared with the cost of making ice at the other Branches.

The dining hall was found in good condition, but it is of insufficient capacity, and authority has been granted for its extension. Its present capacity is for 560 members. The tables are always set twice and often three times. The kitchen seemed of ample capacity. Roaches were observed with the bread in the bakery. It was reported that the dining hall and kitchen are inspected daily by the quartermaster, monthly by the surgeon, and frequently by the governor. The facilities for receiving and taking care of supplies and for cooking and serving meals seemed ample. No improvements were suggested as needed in these respects.

It was reported that there had been no sales of condemned subsistence property during the year. An average of 32 persons were said to be permanently employed in the kitchen, and 79 in the dining hall. It was reported that the average cost of the ration per month, including vegetables and fruit produced on the Home grounds, was \$5.286, and that no meals had been given to transients not officially connected with the Home. No members, it was stated, received outdoor relief. The average cost of the hospital ration, including extra diet, per man per day was reported as 39.76 cents. The average pieces of crockery broken per man during the year was reported as four, and the breakage was said to be principally due to the infirmities of the waiters, who are old men, and to the crowded facilities for handling crockery while it is being washed.

The following was the bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902:

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Ham and eggs, bread, potatoes, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, brown gravy, potatoes, onions, bread, plum pudding, coffee.

Supper: Coffee cake, stewed fruit, bread, oleo, tea.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Sweet pickled shoulder, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Bean soup, pork and beans, carrots, bread, coffee.

Supper: Hot baked beans, bread, oleo, tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Beef stew, potatoes, bread, coffee.

Dinner: Vegetable soup, boiled beef, potatoes, turnips, bread, coffee.

Supper: Mush and milk, corn bread, wheat bread, sirup, tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Beef hash, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Vegetable soup, macaroni and cheese, cabbage, oleo, bread, coffee.

Supper: Hot lima beans, graham bread, wheat bread, oleo, tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Beef stew, potatoes, bread, coffee.

Dinner: Sweet pickled shoulder, potatoes, onions, bread, coffee.

Supper: Stewed fruit, bread, hot buns, oleo, tea.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Beef hash, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Pea soup, baked fresh fish, potatoes, beets, catsup, bread, coffee.

Supper: Gingerbread, bread, stewed fruit, oleo, tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Beef stew, potatoes, bread, coffee.

Dinner: Sweet pickled shoulder, cabbage, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Mush and milk, bread, sirup, tea.

The hospital was in a generally satisfactory condition, but some minor defects were noted. The letters-sent book was not properly indexed. The memorandums on the envelopes relating to the "Patients' deposit book" did not agree with the book. The liquor room was not in an orderly condition; empty boxes and other similar articles had been allowed to accumulate. Roaches and dirt were found in the kitchen, the appearance of which was not sufficiently clean. It was noted that the assistant surgeons and the nurses use the same dining room. This Branch is the only one which does not have a cottage for the nurses. Such a building seems desired, notwithstanding it was reported that the nurses prefer the existing arrangement. It has been found generally that better results are obtained to have the nurses live in a separate building from the hospital, where they can get the necessary rest, removed from the scene of their prolonged and exacting duties.

The hospital is in five buildings, connected by covered corridors—administration building, north and south wings, annex, kitchen, and mess hall—and it has a capacity for the accommodation of 236 patients. Quarters for convalescents are in a ward in Barrack G. The ventilation of the hospital consists of conduits under the floors connecting with openings in the floors. In the annex it consists of openings in the walls, at top and base. The hospital did not seem to have sufficient fire hose. The attics are used for dormitories for employees, and the basements are used for the storage of the private property of patients and employees, and also of hospital property, and to some extent of lumber belonging to the quartermaster department. One compartment of the basement is used for sick call, and also as the office of a deputy county clerk. The construction of an additional barrack room to relieve overcrowding was mentioned as required to improve the sanitary condition of the Home.

The average daily number of sick during the year was reported as 254, of whom 230 were in the hospital and 24 in barracks or sick call. The total number of patients treated during the year, including sick-call patients, was reported as 2,564, and, on an average, each was treated twenty-eight and one-half days. The total number of patients admitted to the hospital during the year was 587. The total number of deaths was 175, of whom 132 died in the hospital, 4 elsewhere on the reservation, and 39 outside of the reservation. One hundred and sixth-nine died from natural causes, 2 from suicide, and 4 as the result of accidents. The average age at death was about 63.1 years, or 4.273 years younger than the average of the Home as a whole; and the death rate per thousand of the whole number cared for was 53.39, and per thousand of average present and absent, 66.32.

The principal chronic diseases were those of the nervous, circulatory, alimentary, and genito-urinary systems; and the principal surgical diseases were those of the eye and ear and of the alimentary and genito-urinary systems. The principal acute diseases were alcoholism, and



those of the respiratory and alimentary systems. The infectious or contagious diseases treated were erysipelas, influenza, syphilis, pulmonary tuberculosis, and variola.

The number of members buried in the Home cemetery during the year was 141. The coffins are made at Los Angeles and cost \$8.75 each. In the cemetery it was noted that 18 graves were entirely unmarked, not having even a wooden headboard or number.

The facilities for bathing in the hospital consist of 6 bathrooms with 8 tubs, which gives 29 patients to each tub. Patients are bathed once a week, or oftener if needed, with the assistance of a nurse when required.

The average number of hospital employees is 96, of whom 77 are members and 19 civilians, and their cost for the year was reported as \$20,211.31, of which the members received \$9,973.65, and the civilians \$10,237.66. There is an average of 31.11 patients per employee; and the average monthly cost of employees is \$12.35.

It was reported that during the fiscal year \$5,388.11 had been expended for medicines.

The insane members are cared for in the hospital. Insane members. They are quartered or confined in the hospital wards. Those violently or permanently insane are committed to an asylum. They are afforded no other recreation than that furnished the other patients in the hospital; and no special provisions or conveniences are supplied in their quarters. No facilities are provided for the proper care of the insane, it was reported; and it was suggested that it would be well to construct a detention ward for the demented and mildly insane.

It was reported that there were during the year 43 members showing indications of disordered minds, of whom 4 were considered permanently insane and were sent to the Southern California State Asylum for the Insane. The principal classes of illusions were: Dementia, 33; hypochondriasis, 4; melancholia, 3; and mania, 3. Members committed to asylums as insane are discharged from membership in the Home. An average of 4.5 were stated to be sent to the asylum annually.

There were at this Branch 14 members totally blind, and 21 had their eyesight so impaired as to be unable to read. Blind members. Fourteen required attendance, and about 35 were read to daily for several hours in the afternoon. One member is employed to read to the blind, and they are given assistance at meals, in dressing and undressing, and such other care as their daily life requires. The per cent of totally blind to the annual average present is 0.7+.

The inspection of the accounts and records at this Branch show the following:

As the per capita cost for subsistence at each Branch is based upon the disbursements from the appropriation for subsistence, general fund, the charging of any of the usual expenses on account of subsistence, as cranberries for Thanksgiving and turkeys for Christmas, to the post fund instead of to subsistence disturbs the relative per capita cost.

No charge, as at some of the other Branches, is here made for the cost of light and heat for the post fund buildings, but such items of expense are paid from the general fund.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Beef hash, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Pea soup, baked fresh fish, potatoes, beets, catsup, bread, coffee.

Supper: Gingerbread, bread, stewed fruit, oleo, tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Beef stew, potatoes, bread, coffee.

Dinner: Sweet pickled shoulder, cabbage, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Mush and milk, bread, sirup, tea.

The hospital was in a generally satisfactory condition, but some minor defects were noted. The letters-sent book was not properly indexed. The memorandums on the envelopes relating to the "Patients' deposit book" did not agree with the book. The liquor room was not in an orderly condition; empty boxes and other similar articles had been allowed to accumulate. Roaches and dirt were found in the kitchen, the appearance of which was not sufficiently clean. It was noted that the assistant surgeons and the nurses use the same dining room. This Branch is the only one which does not have a cottage for the nurses. Such a building seems desired, notwithstanding it was reported that the nurses prefer the existing arrangement. It has been found generally that better results are obtained to have the nurses live in a separate building from the hospital, where they can get the necessary rest, removed from the scene of their prolonged and exacting duties.

The hospital is in five buildings, connected by covered corridors—administration building, north and south wings, annex, kitchen, and mess hall—and it has a capacity for the accommodation of 236 patients. Quarters for convalescents are in a ward in Barrack G. The ventilation of the hospital consists of conduits under the floors connecting with openings in the floors. In the annex it consists of openings in the walls, at top and base. The hospital did not seem to have sufficient fire hose. The attics are used for dormitories for employees, and the basements are used for the storage of the private property of patients and employees, and also of hospital property, and to some extent of lumber belonging to the quartermaster department. One compartment of the basement is used for sick call, and also as the office of a deputy county clerk. The construction of an additional barrack room to relieve overcrowding was mentioned as required to improve the sanitary condition of the Home.

The average daily number of sick during the year was reported as 254, of whom 230 were in the hospital and 24 in barracks or sick call. The total number of patients treated during the year, including sick-call patients, was reported as 2,564, and, on an average, each was treated twenty-eight and one-half days. The total number of patients admitted to the hospital during the year was 587. The total number of deaths was 175, of whom 132 died in the hospital, 4 elsewhere on the reservation, and 39 outside of the reservation. One hundred and sixth-nine died from natural causes, 2 from suicide, and 4 as the result of accidents. The average age at death was about 63.1 years, or 4.273 years younger than the average of the Home as a whole; and the death rate per thousand of the whole number cared for was 53.39, and per thousand of average present and absent, 66.32.

The principal chronic diseases were those of the nervous, circulatory, alimentary, and genito-urinary systems; and the principal surgical diseases were those of the eye and ear and of the alimentary and genito-urinary systems. The principal acute diseases were alcoholism, and

those of the respiratory and alimentary systems. The infectious or contagious diseases treated were erysipelas, influenza, syphilis, pulmonary tuberculosis, and variola.

The number of members buried in the Home cemetery during the year was 141. The coffins are made at Los Angeles and cost \$8.75 each. In the cemetery it was noted that 18 graves were entirely unmarked, not having even a wooden headboard or number.

The facilities for bathing in the hospital consist of 6 bathrooms with 8 tubs, which gives 29 patients to each tub. Patients are bathed once a week, or oftener if needed, with the assistance of a nurse when required.

The average number of hospital employees is 96, of whom 77 are members and 19 civilians, and their cost for the year was reported as \$20,211.31, of which the members received \$9,973.65, and the civilians \$10,237.66. There is an average of 31.11 patients per employee; and the average monthly cost of employees is \$12.35.

It was reported that during the fiscal year \$5,388.11 had been expended for medicines.

The insane members are cared for in the hospital. Insane members. They are quartered or confined in the hospital wards.

Those violently or permanently insane are committed to an asylum. They are afforded no other recreation than that furnished the other patients in the hospital; and no special provisions or conveniences are supplied in their quarters. No facilities are provided for the proper care of the insane, it was reported; and it was suggested that it would be well to construct a detention ward for the demented and mildly insane.

It was reported that there were during the year 43 members showing indications of disordered minds, of whom 4 were considered permanently insane and were sent to the Southern California State Asylum for the Insane. The principal classes of illusions were: Dementia, 33; hypochondriasis, 4; melancholia, 3; and mania, 3. Members committed to asylums as insane are discharged from membership in the Home. An average of 4.5 were stated to be sent to the asylum annually.

There were at this Branch 14 members totally blind, Blind members. and 21 had their eyesight so impaired as to be unable to read. Fourteen required attendance, and about 35

were read to daily for several hours in the afternoon. One member is employed to read to the blind, and they are given assistance at meals, in dressing and undressing, and such other care as their daily life requires. The per cent of totally blind to the annual average present is 0.7+.

The inspection of the accounts and records at this Branch show the following:

As the per capita cost for subsistence at each Branch is based upon the disbursements from the appropriation for subsistence, general fund, the charging of any of the usual expenses on account of subsistence, as cranberries for Thanksgiving and turkeys for Christmas, to the post fund instead of to subsistence disturbs the relative per capita cost.

No charge, as at some of the other Branches, is here made for the cost of light and heat for the post fund buildings, but such items of expense are paid from the general fund.

It was noted that the pension money in the hands of the treasurer, belonging to an insane member at the date of his transfer to the State insane asylum, was turned over with all his effects to the superintendent of the asylum.

The shop accounts for the last fiscal year were indifferently kept and were not of much apparent value as records. In the bakery account bread was credited at  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents, coffee cake at 3, and pies at  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ; to these amounts 10 per cent, as required by Home regulations, was added, but as the apparent profit thus obtained seemed to be too large, this amount was subsequently deducted.

A comparison between the amount of bread reported as fabricated and that taken up from the same source during the same periods on the perishable property ledger shows large variations, as, for instance, the bakery account reports for July, 1902, as fabricated 33,417 pounds, while the ledger takes up but 31,175 as fabricated during the same period, a shortage of 2,242 pounds from the amount reported by the baker.

For the hospital, dining-hall, commissary, and post-fund employees but one time book is kept for each for each month, and these books are turned in to the quartermaster at noon each day. The shop time books are in duplicate for alternate days. The quartermaster keeps but one general time book for each month, two alternate months are kept in each book, and he turns his current book over to the treasurer at least twice a week, and toward the close of the month daily. It seems possible to dispense with the second time book for each month, to be used for alternate ten-day periods, which requires the whole pay roll to be copied twice each month, once for the first and third ten days, and again for the second ten days. This system would seem to scatter the records and involve apparently unneeded clerical labor.

All matters connected with this Branch and not commented on in this report were found to be satisfactory.

Concluding remarks.

#### NO. 4.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF THE WESTERN BRANCH, MADE AUGUST 18 to 21, 1902.

Post-office. National Military Home, Leavenworth County, Kans.  
Col. Sidney G. Cooke, Herington, Kans., is the local  
Local manager. manager of this Branch, and his term of office as such expires in 1906.

The following are the officers of the Branch, viz:  
Officers. Governor, Col. J. G. Rowland; treasurer, Maj. William W. Martin; surgeon, Maj. A. G. Hull; commissary of subsistence, Capt. D. C. Goodrich; quartermaster, Col. U. V. Pearsall; chaplains, Rev. James M. Payne and Rev. Thomas H. Kinsella; matron, Mrs. Martha J. Smith. The only change in officers since the previous inspection was in the office of treasurer, Major Martin having taken that office on September 1, 1901, vice Maj. W. B. Shockley, resigned.

This Branch, in its main and important features, was entirely satisfactory, and the uniform tenor of its firm and just administration continues to produce the desired results. More harmony seems desirable among the officers.

The reservation consists of 640 acres of land, situated on the banks of the Missouri River. This Branch is only 3 miles from the city of Leavenworth, and is also within easy distance of Kansas City, Mo., with which it is connected by an electric road. There are many fine forest trees on the grounds, which add much to their beauty and attractiveness; and the general appearance of the reservation, lawns, walks, etc., showed that they were the objects of careful attention on the part of the officers of the Branch.

The barracks were found generally in very good condition. Some minor exceptions were noted, especially that the floors and porches need repairs. Much of the old and unsanitary plumbing is being replaced by new and modern plumbing.

The barracks are 14 in number, and are brick structures with metal roofs, located on a ridge, in crescent form. They were originally intended to accommodate 124 men each; but at the time of inspection they were actually occupied by 174 each. None of the members were sleeping in attics or on floors; but 265 were sleeping in basements. Each of the barracks has a basement, of which 1 is used for storage of fire equipment and cold storage for the hospital, 2 for post property, 7 for dormitories, 1 for billiard hall, and 3 were vacant.

The dormitory floor space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 60; lowest, 39.6; average, 51.8. The dormitory air space per man, in cubic feet, is: Highest, 817; lowest, 469; average, 627. The dormitory window space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 11.7; lowest, 3 (in basement); average, 11.1. Each barrack has 2 bath tubs. The average number of men to each bath tub is 71. Many of the barracks are deficient in the number of bath tubs. Company B had only 2 tubs for 192 men. This was the extreme case found, but many of the companies are nearly as badly off for bathing facilities. There are 6 toilet rooms in each barrack, conveniently located. The average number of men to each urinal is 27; to each hopper, 15.

The barracks have shaft ventilation, with registers near the floors and ceilings, and are heated by steam radiation. The buildings are lighted by incandescent lamps and the grounds by arc lights, the light being obtained from the Home electric plant.

The beds and lockers were in good condition.

The improvements made during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, were the remodeling of the lavatories by replacing the wooden floors with tile floors, tile wainscoting, and steel ceilings; the old galvanized iron sinks were replaced with marble slabs and basins. Sixteen Douglas water-closets were installed; the water supply was increased by the laying of an additional 8-inch main. No new buildings were constructed.

The improvements contemplated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903, are: The extension of the boiler house and heating plant (now building), additional boiler, extension of electric-light plant, one combination barrack, headquarters building, open dry shed for laundry, feed shed for cows, and quarters for Catholic chaplain.

The improvements required for the fiscal year 1904 have been estimated for as follows: Addition to nurses' cottage, \$3,000; remodeling old headquarters building, \$3,000; elevators for hospital, \$5,000; carpenter shop, \$4,000; addition to power house, \$4,000; double cottage for farmer and assistant engineer, \$2,500.

The total officers and members present and absent on June 30, 1902, was 3,850, of whom 2,471 were present and 1,379 were absent. This was a net gain in population of 249 over the preceding year. The gain and loss in membership may be indicated as follows:

Gain:	
By first admission.....	847
By readmission.....	285
By transfer from other Homes.....	70
	— 1,202
Loss:	
By transfer to other Homes.....	130
By discharge.....	385
By honorable discharge.....	23
By dropped from rolls.....	155
By death.....	249
By transfer to Government Insane Asylum.....	11
	— 953
Net gain.....	249

The average number of officers and members present and absent during the year was 3,802, of whom 2,618 were present and 1,184 were absent. The average present was 103 greater than for the preceding year. The greatest number present at any one time was 2,856 on February 21, 1902; the lowest was 2,293 on July 3, 1901, giving an extreme range of 563 members. The greatest number absent on any one day was 1,442 on June 8, 1902, and the lowest was 956 on February 17, 1902. An average of 22 men were temporarily cared for during the year, and the total number cared for during the year was 4,804, and they were of an average age of 64 years.

The number of men admitted to this branch from the Spanish war was reported as 131, of whom, during the year, 15 were discharged, 10 died, 12 were dropped from the rolls, and 1 was transferred, leaving a total of 93 on the rolls on June 30, 1902.

At the time of inspection there was a total of 2,642 officers and members present and 1,216 members absent. A review was held on August 20, 1902, at which time the total number of officers and men in camp was 2,628, and the number in line at review was 1,358, all of whom were in uniform. The ceremony of saluting the flag at retreat has probably been conducted more frequently and successfully at this Branch than at any other, with an undoubtedly beneficial effect on the members and visiting civilians. The review was preceded by an inspection. The members had apparently not prepared for the inspection, as much soiled clothing was observed as well as many unblackened shoes.

It was reported that the principal offenses at this Branch have been under the charges of drunk, drunk and disorderly, jumping the fence, bringing in whisky, and absent without leave. The penalties attached for these offenses are work without pay and dishonorable discharge. The total number of members offending was reported as 500, and the total number committing no offense as 4,304, or 90 per cent of the whole number cared for during the year. This is the next to highest average of all Branches. The total number of trials during the year was reported as 715, of which 403 were for drunkenness, 35 for fence jumping, 213 for absence without leave, and 64 for other offenses. Ninety-five members were tried twice, and 44 more than twice. No fines were

imposed, and no members were confined as a punishment. The greatest number of members reported drunk in one day was 17—on November 25, 1901, just after a pension day. The guardhouse is located on the street in the rear of the barracks, and was found in good condition.

Baseball is one of the prominent features of entertainment here during the summer. Large numbers of members and others attend the games, and all seem to take much interest in them. The admittance to the grounds for the members is free, except to the grand stand, where a charge of 5 cents is made for members, 10 cents for officers, and 15 cents for others. Teams are hired to play, and the revenue thus derived pays in part the expenses of the games. There are also numerous other facilities for amusements at this Branch, such as the library, band, theater, lake, boats, billiard hall, and card rooms.

The library is in the headquarters building and was in good condition. It was reported to contain 9,759 volumes at the time of inspection, and it also receives 97 newspapers and 25 magazines, 85 newspapers and 6 magazines being furnished it free of cost. It was stated that 278 volumes were added to the library during the fiscal year—261 by purchase and 17 by presentation—and none were disposed of by condemnation or otherwise. The average attendance, daily, in the reading room was reported as 75, and books were called for 18,372 times during the year. Fiction was in greatest demand, and the ten books most read were said to be *Richard Carvel*, *The Crisis*, *An Army Wife*, *Day's Daughter*, *Janice Meredith*, *Santa Fe Trail*, *Story of the Revolution*, *In the Palace of the King*, *The Two Dianas*, and *Alice of Old Vincennes*. Books are taken from the library free of charge.

The band consists of 21 men, all civilians, and its total cost for the year, including the subsistence and other allowances of the members, was \$7,432.94. The average cost per concert was \$14.65, much the lowest cost per concert of all the Branches, being less than one-half the average cost for the Home as a whole.

The average monthly compensation of the leader is \$100, of the other musicians \$23.86. During the year 508 free concerts were given, nearly twice as many as are usually given at the Branches, all of which were said to have been well attended. Of these, 190 were indoors and 318 out of doors. There are two band stands—one on the lake, one near headquarters. The band is maintained during the whole of the year. The civilian musicians receive the same clothing, fuel, and rations as the members of the Home. The band discourses all classes of music, and national airs and music by American composers are played every day.

The theater building is in charge of the Branch treasurer, and an amusement committee has charge of the entertainments given in it. The building is located near the center of the camp, and was in good condition. It has a seating capacity of between 1,200 and 1,300. The character of performances given is principally comedy and music. Large meetings and concerts are also sometimes held in the theater building. Fifty paid performances, and no free ones, were given here during the year at an expense of \$5,083.25. There is no charge of admission to members, but others pay 15 cents and 50 cents, and the receipts from this source during the year was \$590.70.

For the use of the boats on the lake there is a charge of 25 cents to civilians, but the boats are free to members. During the year the

total receipts from this source were \$41.85, and the expenses were \$37.25. There are four boats.

The billiard room is in the basement of a barrack, and was in good condition. There are 2 billiard tables, 2 pool tables, and 1 shuffle board, all in good condition. The tables are frequently in use, and there is no charge to members for games. Quoits is the only outdoor game played by the members. There are no card rooms in the barracks, but there is a card room adjoining the hospital. Cards are played in the wards. There are about 75 card tables, and they are most frequented in the afternoon and evening. Besides cards, the other indoor games are checkers and dominos, and the members can assemble in the barracks to play them in the day and evening. Facilities are ample for playing all these indoor games. It was reported that the amusement room is seldom formally inspected by a commissioned officer, but is inspected every week by a noncommissioned officer. The treasurer, as post fund officer, often inspects it informally.

The societies among the members consist of a Grand Army of the Republic post, with 155 members, a Union Veteran Legion, with 97 members, both these meeting every other Wednesday, and a Christian Endeavor Society, which meets every Tuesday. The latter has 146 members. It was reported that these societies have had a good effect upon discipline.

Religious services are held in a handsome chapel, which is in every way suitable for the purpose. It has a seating capacity of about 300. There are two chaplains—Protestant and Catholic—both of whom live on the Home reservation. The Protestant chaplain receives a salary of \$100 a month, and the Catholic chaplain receives \$75 a month. Religious services, it was stated, are held every day, and are well attended, the average attendance being about 250. It was reported that during the year the Protestant chaplain held 260 services, and the Catholic chaplain held three each Sunday, besides daily exercises in the chapel. Both make visits to the sick constantly, besides visits to the barracks, and conducting funerals.

Farm. There has been a very favorable season this year, and good crops have been produced at this Branch, including more than 7,000 pounds of grapes and a large yield of apples. The number of acres under cultivation are 135, of which 105 are used as a farm and 30 as a garden, which is the largest garden of any Branch. The value of the live stock on the farm on June 30, 1902, was reported as \$4,765; and this stock consisted of 7 horses, 42 cows, 1 bull, and 9 calves. Cattle and other animals on the farm, when no longer required, are sold. During the year the cows produced 27,709 gallons of milk, which was worth, in the nearest town, an average of 14½ cents per gallon. The average number of employees on the farm was 35, of whom 32 were members and 3 were civilians; and the average number employed in the garden was 27, of whom 15 were in the vegetable garden, 8 were in the flower garden, and 4 were employed at work on the lawn. The average number employed in teaming was 10.

The buildings, etc., pertaining to the farm were generally in good condition, and consist of 1 cottage, 4 greenhouses, 2 buildings auxiliary to greenhouses, 1 storehouse for vegetables and roots, 1 main stable which holds all the horses and vehicles, both public and private, 2 cow



barns, and 1 small house used as stable employees' quarters. The public vehicles on hand consist of 9 farm wagons, 2 dump carts, 1 laundry wagon, 3 spring wagons, 1 two-horse ambulance, 1 two-horse hospital carriage, 1 two-horse burial wagon, and 1 "Pullman." There are 8 private vehicles. Sixteen public horses and 4 public mules were in use, and there were 7 private animals on hand.

The value of the farm product on hand for the year may be summarized as follows:

Value of farm products turned into commissary .....	\$7,857.59
Value of farm products sold .....	2.00
Cost of maintaining farm proper .....	6,158.98
Cost of maintaining lawn and flower garden .....	2,266.18
Cost of maintaining transportation and teams .....	4,350.51

The credit for use of transportation not known.

The accounts and disbursements pertaining to the Disbursements. several funds were examined from August 19, 1901, the date of the last inspection, to August 15, 1902, and the transactions may be summarized as follows:

Designation.	General fund.	Pension fund.	Post fund.	Total.
Balance due last inspection .....	\$39,035.79	\$3,160.30	\$7,366.48	\$49,562.57
By transfers from officers .....	428,709.61	426,356.92		855,066.53
From sales .....	5,993.37		74,303.21	80,296.58
From collections .....	3,862.03	24.00		3,886.03
Transferred by direction of president of Board of Managers .....	93.98			93.98
Total to be accounted for .....	477,694.78	429,541.22	81,669.69	988,905.69
Expended .....	353,129.46	423,041.95	67,091.83	843,263.24
Transferred to officers .....	61,899.20	3,800.00	6,569.70	72,268.90
Transferred by direction of president of Board of Managers .....	93.98			93.98
Total accounted for .....	415,122.64	426,841.95	73,661.53	915,626.12
Balance due .....	62,572.14	2,699.27	8,008.16	73,279.57
	477,694.78	429,541.22	81,669.69	988,905.69

All the above balances were on deposit with the First National Bank, of Leavenworth, Kans., except \$100 cash on hand under the post fund.

The receipts and expenditures under the general fund General fund. amounted to \$370,058.51 and \$348,356.62, respectively. Of the total receipts all was by transfer except \$10,133.51, received from sales and other sources. All the disbursements were made by check, it was reported. There was received on the posthumous account the sum of \$1,306.69, and \$1,965.42 was disbursed, leaving a balance for the year under this account of \$2,341.27.

The number of open-market purchases made during the year was 362, the purchases amounting to the sum of \$11,587.66.

The daily average number of employees engaged under the general fund during the year was 516, of whom 6 were officers, 27 noncommissioned officers, 417 members, and 65 civilians. The total amount paid them was \$103,158.58, as follows: Officers, \$11,562.50; noncommissioned officers, \$6,690; members, \$53,932.13; civilians, \$30,973.95. As compared with the preceding fiscal year there was a decrease of 38 in this force—30 members and 8 civilians; but the total amount paid employees was \$8,574.25 greater than for the previous year. No men worked without pay (not as a penalty) during the year.

The average cost of maintenance per capita at this Branch for the fiscal year 1902 was reported as \$140.95.

Post fund. During the fiscal year the transactions of the post fund included receipts of \$65,719.95, of which the Home store took in \$19,877.95, the beer hall \$38,957.10, and the hotel and restaurant \$6,884.70. There were also other receipts, as follows: From transportation, \$128.11; from amusements, \$590.70; and from other sources, \$440.30—a grand total of receipts of \$66,877.86. The total expenditures were reported as \$66,588.01, of which \$45,363.72 was for stock for the store. The amount of net profit for the year was stated to be \$5,848.19. Beer is bought by contract, and 96,875 gallons were bought during the year. It cost \$19,977.75, and was sold for \$38,957.10, a profit of \$18,979.35, or nearly 100 per cent.

The percentage of profit was but 95+, and the average amount received for a barrel of beer was but \$12.62, both being much below the average of the Home as a whole. The amount sold for 5 cents was 14 liquid ounces, which is above the average of the Homes as a whole.

Cash registers are used as a check on business at the Home store. In the beer hall, tickets as provided for by the regulations, are deposited in securely-locked boxes. The tickets are taken from these boxes once each day and are publicly destroyed.

Nine buildings pertain to the post fund, as follows: 1 amusement building, 1 band stand, 1 band-leader's house, 1 church, 1 guard station, 1 theater building, and 2 workshops, all of which are occupied for post-fund purposes, except the guard station. The electric-railway station is also occupied for post-fund purposes.

The average daily number of the employees of the post fund was 47—39 members and 8 civilians, and the total amount paid them was \$7,314.43—\$5,433.43 to members and \$1,881 to civilians. Civilians received an average of 63 cents per day and members 41 cents per day.

Pension fund. The number of pensioners on the rolls at this Branch on June 30, 1902, was 3,449, which is about 90 per cent of the total membership, present and absent, at that date. Of these pensioners, 2,273 were present at the Home on that date. The total amount of pension money received by the treasurer during the year was \$427,021.47, of which he paid out \$422,009.47, the sum of \$288,002.48 being paid in currency and \$134,006.99 by check. The balance due pensioners was \$5,012, and this belonged to 49 men, 37 of whom had balances of less than \$100 each to their credit, 11 had between \$100 and \$500, and 1 had more than \$1,000.

At this Branch 1,478 men receive a pension of \$12 a month; 904 receive \$8 per month; 439 receive \$6 a month; 439 receive \$10 a month; and the remainder receive sums ranging from \$7.50 to \$30 a month. The highest rate drawn here is \$30 a month, and it is received by 7 members. The amount of pensions paid to absentee members during the year was \$113,453.82. Four clerks are employed on pension business; and, altogether, they receive \$1,840 per year.

Quartermaster department. The quartermaster storehouse is located east of the barracks. It was found dry and in good condition, except the roof, and steps had been taken to secure the repair of that. Quartermaster property is stored in other places, as follows: Lumber in the lumber yard, lime in the lime house, and oil in an isolated brick oil house located near the power house.

The value of quartermaster stores (current supplies) on hand on

June 30, 1902, was reported as \$7,467.27. Inventories are taken semiannually. Unserviceable property, when condemned, is sold or destroyed, as authorized by the inspector. During the year quartermaster property (exclusive of clothing) that originally cost \$4,683.29 was condemned and sold, and there was received for it the sum of \$157.50. This property comprised 45,166 articles, including units of weight and measure.

The clothing was generally in good condition. The value of the clothing received from the depot during the year was reported as \$33,059.06. Clothing to the value of \$30,834.21 was inspected and condemned during the year. This is an average of \$11.74 per man of the average population present. The value of the clothing issued during the year was said to be \$24,745.54.

The average length of time the different articles are worn before being cast off is: Cap, eighteen months; hat, nine months; dress coat, two and one-half years; blouse, one year; vest, fifteen months; trousers, eight months; shoes, one year; shirt, eight months; drawers, nine months; socks, three months. Articles of clothing are issued and reissued until worn out.

It was reported that during the year the sum of \$1,088.48 was received from the sale of rags.

The laundry building is centrally located, and was found in good condition. It was of ample capacity, except that a drying-shed was needed; but a Congressional appropriation had been made for this, and it was stated that the contract would soon be let.

Each member is entitled to send to the laundry all his clothing that needs washing, except that their private underwear is not laundered there. It was reported that during the past year \$3,024.95 was expended by the laundry for labor and material. One foreman and 16 laundrymen are employed. During the year 36,000 pounds of soap were used in the laundry, 11,000 pounds in the barracks, and 4,000 pounds in the hospital.

The fire department was tested and found to be satisfactory. The equipment is complete and well distributed; its organization is good; and the auxiliary detachments in the companies, including a salvage detachment, would doubtless prove efficient and valuable in case of fire.

No fires occurred during the past year for which the fire department was called out. The protection against fire consists of fire plugs at convenient points; 3,750 feet of 2½-inch hose; each barrack has 150 feet of 1½-inch hose; 121 hand fire extinguishers are placed at suitable points in the various buildings; the hospitals and nurses' cottages have 1,400 feet of 1½-inch hose; 581 fire buckets are placed at proper points in each barrack and building, and are kept filled with water, which is changed weekly. A hook-and-ladder truck and two chemical engines had been recently purchased and received; one of the engines is located in the basement of the barrack adjoining the hospital and the other in the west end of the quartermaster building. The apparatus is tested frequently by two men employed for that purpose. All civilian employees are instructed in the use of hose and respond to fire alarms. Ten men in each barrack constitute a fire detail. One member is constantly on duty at each engine house and attending to the chemical engines.

The shops of the engineer department are five in number, and are well located. They consist of the repair, printing, and horseshoeing shops, near the power house; the bake shop, near the commissary storehouse; and the tailor and shoe shops, in the quartermaster building.

Water is furnished this Branch from the Leavenworth city waterworks. It was reported as sufficient in volume but as lacking in pressure. The water company had promised to remedy the defect very soon. Drainage and sewerage is by sewer pipe, sunk to the proper depth, and covered, and emptying into the Missouri River. This system gave satisfaction and was said to need no improvement.

The steam plant consists of two 200-horsepower boilers, four 300-horsepower boilers, and a main engine of 175 horsepower. The plant is used for heating and cooking, and also for pumping water in case of the failure of the waterworks to supply sufficient pressure. It is reported to have cost \$24,324, and was maintained during the past fiscal year at a cost of \$41,495—a cost per horsepower of \$23.83. There are at this Branch 3,243,359 cubic feet of air space to be heated.

The lighting plant consists of two 55-kilowatt direct-current machines; 1 T. and H. arc-light machine, class K, 30 lights; 1 Armington & Simms engine, 150 revolutions to the minute. The plant was reported to have cost \$14,147, and was maintained during the past fiscal year at a cost of \$3,854. There are 30 arc lights and 1,728 incandescent lights.

The cold storage and ice plant consists of one 50-horsepower engine, with compressor and steam pumps. The cubic feet of space to be cooled are 19,700. The cost of the plant was reported to have been \$10,750, and it was maintained during the past fiscal year at a cost of \$1,680. It has a capacity for making 5 tons of ice per day, besides refrigerating, and the approximate cost per ton for making it was said to be 90 cents. This plant was reported to consume 114 tons of coal a month, that cost \$2 a ton. The coal used here is reported to be of inferior quality.

The dining hall and kitchen were found in good condition. The dining hall has a capacity for accommodating 1,080 members. Tables are set twice for each meal. It was stated that both the dining hall and the kitchen are inspected very frequently by the surgeon, and weekly by the governor or by some other officer designated, and daily by the home inspector. The facilities for receiving and taking care of supplies and for cooking and serving meals seemed ample, and it was reported that nothing was needed to improve them.

Subsistence supplies are stored in the basement of the general mess hall, which seemed in every way suitable. It was reported that no commissary articles had deteriorated or become valueless during the past year on account of poor storage, and no sales of condemned subsistence property. An average of 17 persons are said to be permanently employed in the kitchen and 88 in the dining hall. The average cost of the ration per month, including vegetables, fruit, and milk produced on the Home grounds, was \$4.79+; and of the hospital ration, including extra diet, per man per day, 20+ cents. During the year no meals were given to transients not officially connected with the Home. It was stated that no members received outdoor relief at this Branch. The average pieces of crockery broken per man during the year was reported as 9.2, and the breakage was said to be due to

the large number of pieces handled and the advanced age of the waiters.

The following was the bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902:

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Sugar-cured ham, steamed potatoes, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Roast pork loins, mashed potatoes, peas, tapioca pudding, pickles, bread, butter, coffee.

Supper: Cold meats, canned pears, bread, butter, tea.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Boston baked beans, brown bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, lima beans, bread, butter, coffee.

Supper: Cold meats, stewed prunes, bread, butter, tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Corned-beef hash, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Beef and vegetable soup, crackers, bread, butter, coffee.

Supper: Cold meats, stewed apples, bread, butter, tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Beef fricassee, steamed potatoes, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Baked meat pie, short cake, bread, butter, coffee.

Supper: Cold meats, oatmeal, sirup, bread, butter, tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Irish stew, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, creamed potatoes, vegetables, bread, butter, coffee.

Supper: Cold meats, apricot sauce, cake, bread, butter, tea.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Mackerel, steamed potatoes, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, creamed codfish, mashed potatoes, bread, butter, coffee, pudding, apple pie.

Supper: Cold meats, hominy grits, sirup, cheese, bread, butter, tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Corned-beef hash, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Bean soup, sweet pickled shoulder, crackers, bread, butter, coffee.

Supper: Cold meats, canned pears, bread, butter, tea.

The hospital was generally clean, well administered, Medical department, and in a satisfactory condition, but a modern elevator seems desirable. Both the letters-sent and the letters-received books were not fully indexed. The nurses' cottage is quite crowded, and if more nurses should be required the cottage would have to be enlarged to provide accommodations for them.

The buildings composing the hospital consist of the hospital proper, annex 1, annex 2, and the building for the insane. The hospital has a capacity for 300 patients. There are no quarters for convalescents. The ventilation is natural. The hospital basements are used for scullery and for storage, and they also have seven beds for extra-duty men. Four of the attics are used for patients and the others are used for baggage rooms and for extra-duty men.

The daily average number of sick in the hospital during the year was reported as 274, of whom 226 were in the hospital and the remainder in barracks or sick call. The total number of patients treated during the year, including sick-call patients, was 3,698, the next to largest at any of the Branches; and, on an average, those in the hospital were treated 98+ days each, and those on sick call nearly 48 days each. The total number of deaths was 249, of whom 181 died in the hospital, 21 died elsewhere on the reservation, and 47 died outside the reservation. Two hundred and forty-four died from natural causes, 2 from suicide, and 3 from the result of accidents. Their average age at death was nearly 66 years, and the death rate per thousand of the whole number cared for was 51.20; and of the average pres-

ent and absent 66.08. The number of members buried in the Home cemetery during the year was 202. Coffins are made at St. Louis, Mo., at a cost of \$10.25 each.

The cost of extra diet for the year was but \$598.87, which is much the smallest cost for this of any other Branch.

The principal chronic diseases were asthma, bronchitis, diarrhea, rheumatism, and tuberculosis. The principal acute diseases were erysipelas, influenza, malarial fever, and acute rheumatism. The principal surgical diseases were abscess, cataracts, epithelioma, and fractures. The principal diseases of local origin were 17 cases of malarial fever, which were attributed to the proximity of the Missouri River, and 34 cases of erysipelas, which were supposed to be due to the overcrowded condition of the barracks. Erysipelas was the only class of contagious disease that prevailed during the year.

The facilities for bathing in the hospital consist of 12 bath tubs; and, on an average, there are 25 patients to each tub. Patients are bathed on admission, and once a week afterwards.

The average number of hospital employees was 126, of whom 107 were members and 19 were civilians. Their cost for the year was reported as \$21,824.78, of which the members received \$12,186.29, and the civilians \$9,638.49. The average number of patients per employee was 7.85, and the average cost per employee was \$173.21.

It was reported that 397 different kinds of drugs, preparations, etc., were used in the dispensary during the year, of which 225 were bought and 172 were prepared in the Home pharmacy. The amount expended for drugs, etc., during the year was said to be \$3,622.68, and the ten medicines most used during the year were reported as compound cathartic pills, Epsom salts, fluid extract of cascara, sag. fluid extract hydrastis, bismuth subnitrate, ichthyol, pepsin, potassium iodide, quinine, and salicylate soda. The surgeons, it was said, have submitted no sanitary reports affecting the hospital or the sick during the year, but sanitary reports affecting the balance of the command are submitted quarterly and annually.

It was reported that the insane members are cared for in the same manner as the other patients in the hospital, and that none of them sleep under the level of the ground. They are quartered or confined in a detached building or ward built especially for this class of patients. They are afforded daily walks and music by way of recreation. None of them were placed in close confinement or padded cells during the year. No special provisions or conveniences are supplied in their quarters. Only one of them, an epileptic maniac, is permitted to mingle with the other members. The principal classes of illusions were dementia, melancholia, and delusional insanity. It was stated that the facilities are not ample for properly caring for the insane, but that they could be improved by enlarging the building. An average of nearly 44 insane members are sent to the insane asylum each year.

There were at this Branch 15 members who were totally blind, and 25 with sight so impaired that they were unable to read. Five of them required attendance, and 25 were read to daily by a reader employed for that purpose. They required no other assistance. The per cent of totally blind to the average annually present was reported as 2.63.

The inspection of the accounts and records of the Branch shows the following:

It seems that on August 31, 1901, Maj. W. B. Shockley relinquished the office of treasurer at this Branch to Maj. W. W. Martin, but the cashbooks do not disclose this fact, as there was no record therein to show that Major Shockley turned over to his successor the balance for which he was accountable. The check-book stubs showed the transfer from one officer to the other of amount subject to check, but there was no record of the cash transferred, nor was there any record on the stubs to show there was any change in the officer by whom the checks were issued. It is suggested that when a change of bonded officers is made, the cashbook should clearly show not only the date when the outgoing officer's responsibility ceased, but also that he had fully accounted for all balances for which he was then accountable, supported by proper vouchers. It is also suggested that each check book show by notation thereon the name of the officer by whom the checks were issued.

The record of transportation coupons issued was found incomplete; no notation was made of the coupons paid that the amount of outstanding liabilities in that account might be ascertained.

In returning to the ward fund the sum advanced for the building of the Home hotel and store, the transfers claimed to have been made to the president of the board, namely, \$4,200, were not supported by vouchers, as is usual in all other disbursements or transfers.

The fabrication and issue of bread seems to be without regard to the number of persons present. Thus, in February, 1902, 28,800 pounds were fabricated and issued, as shown by the perishable property ledger, while the average present was reported as 2,817; and in July, 1901, 32,200 pounds were fabricated and issued with an average present during the month of 2,385, or 3,400 pounds more for 432 less men. During December, 1901, January, March, and May, 1902, the record showed the same amount for each month, 32,400 pounds, as fabricated and issued, while the members present during these months were 2,790, 2,811, 2,666, and 2,519, respectively.

The shop accounts were not satisfactorily kept, and seemed to be of no practical value.

Concluding remarks. All matters connected with this Branch, and not commented upon in this report, were found in satisfactory condition.

#### NO. 5.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN BRANCH, AUGUST 22 TO 24, 1902.

Post-office. National Home, Milwaukee County, Wis.

Local manager. Col. John L. Mitchell, Milwaukee, Wis., second vice-president of the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, is still the local manager of this Branch; his term of office will continue to 1904.

Officers. The officers of this Branch have not been changed since my last inspection, and are: Governor, Col. Cornelius Wheeler; treasurer, Maj. J. E. Armitage; surgeon, Maj. Almon Clarke; quartermaster and commissary of subsistence, Capt. W. W. Rowley; adjutant and inspector, Capt. H. A. Valentine; chaplains, Rev. E. P. Wright, D. D., and Rev. A. Hayden, S. J.; matron, Mrs. Annie Knox.

## Grounds.

The general appearance of the grounds at this Branch gives a very pleasing impression of the comfort and care given here to the old veterans. They are well-kept grounds, with an abundance of large and handsome shade trees, but in some places there appears to be an overabundance of shade, so much so, as to interfere with the growth of the grass. The area of this reservation is 382½ acres, which, although below the average in size compared with some of the other Branches, makes up for this in its general appearance and attractiveness. The effects of recent rains were observed on some of the roads, which were somewhat washed. The tracks of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, which run through these grounds at grade, continue to be a menace to the lives and limbs of these old men. The large number of deaths at this Branch from the result of accidents, much larger than at any other Branch, being over twice as many as the largest number reported by any other Branch, is doubtless due partly to this cause, and some steps should be taken to afford greater protection against this danger. The lake, with its boats for the use of the members, adds greatly to the attractive appearance of the grounds, which form one of the objects of interest to the residents of the city of Milwaukee, which is but 4 miles distant and is connected with the Home by two lines of electric cars and handsome driveways. It is needless to say that they prove a popular resort for the citizens.

## Buildings.

As a rule the buildings here were found in an excellent state of repair and in good condition generally. In the main building general repairs have been in progress, new floors being laid, woodwork painted, and walls calcimined. This building is now in first-class condition, although some of the windows needed cleaning. A new elevator has been installed, which is a great convenience to the old men. The other barracks were in process of repair and their condition was generally satisfactory. The allowance of toilet paper was reported as not being sufficient to last the full time for which issued, as was the case last year, and that newspapers were found to be in general use, to the danger of stoppage of the drainpipes. The chapel, surgeon's and adjutant's quarters, the treasurer's and quartermaster's quarters, and the band quarters have all been reshingled. A new bridge has been built for the main roadway. Chaplain's quarters, at a cost of \$2,439.13, and nurses' quarters, at a cost of \$7,302.64, have been built. The vegetable barn has been altered into barracks.

The extension of the electric-light plant, a new greenhouse, at a cost of \$15,700 for the former and \$6,000 for the latter; an elevator in the hospital to cost \$6,100; an addition to the quartermaster's storehouse, at \$8,500, and cement walks and crossings, at \$8,000, are contemplated for the coming year.

The following improvements have been asked for in the estimates for appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904: Cement walks and crossings, at \$8,000; addition to quartermaster's storehouse and equipment, at \$8,500, and an elevator in the hospital, at \$6,100.

At present there are 12 barracks, occupied by 1,688 men, and 165 men were sleeping in basements—this and the Western Branch being the only ones where this occurred. The combination or old men's barracks, of which there are two at this Branch, seem to be a success



and retain their popularity among the old members, who very generally reported themselves as well satisfied.

The total average number of officers and members present and absent during the year was 2,616, or 32 less than last year, the average present at the Home being 2,146, or 46 less than last year. The number of average present at this Branch seems to have steadily decreased for the past five years, excepting during 1901, when there was a small increase. The highest number present during the year was on January 9, 1902, when there were 2,252, and the smallest number present was on March 12, 1902, when there were 1,984. The highest number absent was 643, on May 14, 1902, and the lowest number absent was 349, on June 17, 1902. The average temporarily cared for was 23, and the total cared for during the year was 3,327. The average age of the members during the year was 64.09 years, or 1.59 years younger than last year. The average age of the members admitted during the year was 62.50 years.

There is but a small proportion of Spanish war members at this Branch, as is the case at all the Branches, and on June 30, 1902, the total number of them was 28, or nearly twice as many as were at the Home the same time last year. During the year 2 died, 8 were discharged, 2 dropped from the rolls, and 1 transferred. The total number admitted during the year was 26.

The review of the officers and members, which was preceded by an inspection, was held on August 23, 1902, and presented a most creditable appearance, the clothing and shoes were in a satisfactory condition, appearing to be well cared for. The officers marched in review with the men. The number in line, including the band, was 1,120, or 52 per cent of the present in camp. There were 349 excused, 279 sick, and 400 on extra duty.

The per cent of members at this Branch who committed no offenses during the year was 84.33. During the year the principal offense was drunkenness, for which there were 305 trials. Absence without leave was the next, for which there were 298 trials, which was the next to the largest number tried for this offense at any of the Branches. There were 56 trials for fence jumping and 189 trials for other offenses. The greatest number drunk in one day was on April 17, 1902, subsequent to a pension day.

The old veterans at this Branch are well supplied with amusements of different kinds, from which they derive much pleasure and pastime. The theater, with a seating capacity of 850, and in which different kinds of light drama, vaudeville, lectures, and concerts by the band are given, is one of the principal sources of amusement. No charge is made for these entertainments to the members of the Home, but others are charged from 15 cents to 25 cents each.

There is a good band of 15 pieces, all civilians, at this Branch, who gave 260 concerts during the year, the total cost of which for the year was \$5,294.75, which included their subsistence and other allowances of civilians, and was at the rate of \$20.37 per concert, or \$2.46 per member of the average present at the Home, and is much below the average cost of the Homes. The average cost per musician for the year was \$352.98 each, which is the lowest cost per musician of all the Branches. The music played by this band is well performed, varied in character, with popular music predominating; the national airs are

played at every concert. They are reported as being very well attended.

An excellent library of 9,641 volumes, conveniently located, and with a circulation of 30,459 books, is maintained at this Branch. It takes 87 papers and 24 periodicals, and its average daily attendance is 150. The class of reading most in demand was fiction.

The picturesque lakes on the grounds prove an endless source of amusement, both in winter, when there is excellent skating, as well as in summer, when they are used for boating. Seven boats are kept for the use of the members, without charge; others are charged at the rate of 5 cents per half hour.

Four organized societies have branches at the Home, the total membership of which was 302, and their effect upon the discipline was good. They are as follows: A post of the Grand Army of the Republic, a post of the Old Guard, the Union Veteran Union, and a social club. The social hall includes a billiard room with 3 billiard tables, 3 pool tables, 2 bagatelle tables, and 1 pigeonhole table, and is a popular resort for recreation by the old soldiers. There are also other amusements, such as numerous card tables, checkers, and chess.

The religious services are held weekly and sometimes oftener at the Home chapel, which has recently been reroofed and put in good repair. It has a capacity of 350, a large organ, and is well lighted by electricity. There are two chaplains at this Branch, one Catholic, who held 134 services during the year and resides in Milwaukee, Wis., the other Episcopalian, who held 92 services during the year and who resides on the Home grounds, new quarters having recently been built for him at a cost of \$2,439.13.

The number of acres under cultivation as a farm was 240, which was quite large in proportion to the size of the reservation compared with the other Branches, being 63 per cent of the whole, not including 10 acres used as a garden. It had 16 buildings, which were found generally satisfactory, 33 public vehicles, and 20 public horses, but the method of cleaning the harness continues which was formerly reported, it being cleaned only when it goes to the shop for repairs. The drivers should frequently, at least once a week, clean the harness used by them.

There were 44 cows kept on the farm, which furnished 31,078 gallons of milk during the year. The price of milk in the nearest town was 16 cents per gallon. The total value of the stock on the farm was \$4,065.

There were 27 members and 2 civilians employed on the farm. The following statement shows the farm account for the year:

Turned into commissary .....	\$5,647.85
Fed to stock .....	2,990.25
Sold .....	651.65
<hr/>	
Cost of maintenance:	
Farm proper .....	4,485.00
Lawn and flower garden .....	2,375.00

Credit for use of transportation not known.

The treasurer's office, books, vouchers, etc., were examined from the period of my last inspection, September 4, 1901, to August 20, 1902, and the transactions in the three different funds were found to be correct, and they were as follows:

Disbursements.

	General fund. Pension. nd.		Post fund.	Total.
Balance on hand, Sept. 4, 1901.....	\$8,992.72	\$22,746.96	\$4,775.58	\$36,515.26
By transfer from officers.....	315,759.09	292,760.32		608,519.41
From sales.....	4,912.14		33,293.00	38,205.14
From collections.....	8,271.30		603.63	8,874.98
By transfer of heads.....	65.00			65.00
By redeposit.....		84.00		84.00
Total to be accounted for.....	338,000.25	315,391.28	38,672.21	692,063.74
Expended.....	267,813.03	292,423.61	32,707.04	592,943.68
Transferred to officers.....	36,708.46			36,708.46
Transfer of heads.....	65.00			65.00
Total accounted for.....	304,586.49	292,423.61	32,707.04	629,717.14
Balance due Aug. 20, 1902.....	33,413.76	22,967.67	5,965.17	62,346.60
	338,000.25	315,391.28	38,672.21	692,063.74

The First National Bank of Milwaukee, Wis., the depository for this Branch, held the above balances on deposit.

The total expenditures under all subheads of the General fund. general fund amounted to \$287,433.40 for the year, and was \$13,674.86 more than last year. The total receipts were \$323,964.75. There were no expenditures in cash, all having been made by check.

The largest item of expenditure was for subsistence, which amounted to \$124,169.23, or \$2,482.53 greater than last year. The receipts by the posthumous account amounted to \$91.69 more than last year and were the next to largest of all the Branches, being 60 per cent larger than the average. The amount of this money paid out was but \$3,033.70, and \$9,319.88 received.

The daily average number employed under this fund was 488, or 51 more than last year, and were as follows: 5 officers, 17 noncommissioned officers, 430 members, and 38 civilians. The total amount paid them as salaries during the year was \$83,293.78, and was \$761.29 less than last year, and was an average of \$170.52 per employee. The average salary per employee was \$21.83 more last year than this year. About 60 per cent of the total amount expended for salaries was paid to members.

The average number of members per day who worked without compensation was 255. The average cost per capita for maintenance for the year was but \$129.52, the next to the lowest cost of all the Branches, and is \$7.80 less than the average cost of the Home.

The receipts from sales under this fund amounted to Post fund. \$35,831.49, or a falling off of \$6,423.49 from those of last year. The balance on hand June 30, 1902, was \$6,315.86, or \$642.63 less than the balance left over on the previous year. The principal source of revenue to this fund was from the sale of beer to the members, the receipts from this source for the year amounting to \$19,245.40, the smallest amount of any Branch where beer is sold, and the per cent of profit was 116+ per cent. This is next to the smallest per cent of profit from this source of all the Branches, and is 18 per cent less than the average of the Home. The glass in which this beer is sold is capable of holding 16 liquid ounces, and the number of liquid ounces sold in it for 5 cents was 14, or 1½ ounces more than the average amount of the Home. This may in part account for the small profit at this Branch from this source.

The beer-check system is not satisfactory, as these checks are taken

from the beer hall by the transportation clerk instead of by the treasurer in person. The number of gallons sold during the year was 40,512, much the smallest amount of beer sold at any of the other Branches. Some of the officers think this fund unduly taxed by being required to contribute to the support of the chapel (except to the salary of the chaplain), also for the support of the library.

There were 34 members and 25 civilians employed under this fund, a total of 59. Of these the members received \$4,796.19 and the civilians \$7,374.75 compensation during the year, a total of \$12,170.94, or an average salary per year each of \$206.28. The pay per day for the members ranged from 25 cents to \$1.04, and that of the civilians from 25 cents to \$3.33.

The check on business at the Home store is by means of cash registers, and the total receipts amounted to \$12,070.69.

The total amount of net profit from all sources was reported as being \$12,312, much the largest profit of any other of the Branches.

The total number of pensioners carried on the rolls Pension fund. was 2,412, or 92 per cent of the total membership.

Their pensions ranged from \$6 to \$45, and they received during the year \$204,177.47 in cash, and \$86,958.43 by check, and had a balance due them of \$18,813.38. This amount was due to 224 pensioners, having to their credit amounts ranging from \$100 or less to \$1,000 or over. Of the total number of pensioners on the rolls June 30, 1902, 1,908 were present at the Home, and during the year \$49,608.34 was paid to pensioners who were absent from the Home.

The supplies, etc., of this department were found in good condition and well taken care of. They were stored in five different storehouses, which were in good repair, but not sufficient in capacity. Inventories are taken quarterly; and during the year quartermaster's property to the value of \$28,109.79 was condemned, from the sale of which \$1,048.91 was received.

The amount of property received and accounted for was as follows:

From general depot.....	\$25,665.59
By purchase.....	176,898.30
By transfer.....	1,745.00
Total.....	204,308.89

All the movable property and furniture belonging to the Home is taken up as public property, and such portion of it as is necessary is marked. Property returns are made quarterly and trimonthly to the president of the Board of Managers, concerning all the property received from the general depot, purchased, and otherwise acquired.

The following is a statement of the transactions in Clothing. the clothing account for the year:

Value of clothing on hand July 1, 1901.....	\$7,005.50
Received from depot.....	23,203.63
Received from other places.....	1,745.09
Issued during the year.....	34,020.29
Inspected and condemned.....	22,047.06

The clothing at this Branch was found to be in good condition generally.

The laundry is quite satisfactory and ample in capacity, with 15 employees. The average number of pieces laundried per month is 19,711, the next to the smallest average of all Branches. The members are required to send their

clothing to the laundry at specified times, accompanied with lists, which are verified by count in and out. Private underwear is not taken by the laundry under any conditions.

The fire department was inspected and tested, and consisted of 1 steam fire engine, 2 chemical engines, 1 hose cart, 1 hose carriage, 1 hook-and-ladder truck, 2 steam fire pumps, fire extinguishers, and standpipes. They are tested each month. No fires occurred at the Home during the year. The fire organization consisted of the chief engineer, first assistant, first hoseman, an auxiliary force of noncommissioned officers and detailed members in each company, and the hospital. The fire drill was not satisfactory. The fire was assumed to be in the bakery, and the first stream was on the proper building in three minutes, second stream in eight and one-half minutes, and the third stream in ten minutes, the two latter streams being on the wrong building (the chapel). The chemical engine was discharged in fifteen minutes, and all of the fire extinguishers were not satisfactory.

The engineer department, consisting in all of seven shops, was in good condition, especially the power house, which was clean, and the boilers and other metal parts painted. The average number of employees under this department was 67 members and 9 civilians, or an increase of 10 members and 1 civilian over last year.

The steam plant comprised 4 Babcock & Wilcox water boilers and 5 tubular boilers, that are used for power, heating, cooking, etc. Their cost for maintenance per horsepower was \$22.11, and the cost of maintenance for the past year was \$30,798.

The water supply of this Branch is obtained from the Milwaukee city waterworks, and is reported to be satisfactory. The drainage and sewerage system, which is of the intercepting system, is in good condition, needing no improvements. The Home is lighted by means of two dynamos and has 1,837 gas lights.

This department is well conducted and worthy of praise. The dining room and kitchen were a model of cleanliness, and more free from roaches than usual in such places, as was also the bakery. They are inspected nearly every day by the governor, daily by the commissary and officer of the day, every Sunday by the inspector, and frequently by the surgeon. The capacity of the dining hall is 960, and the tables have to be set twice for each meal in order to accommodate all the members. The average number of permanent employees in the kitchen was 19 and in the dining hall 77. During the year 85 meals were given to transients not connected officially with the Home.

The bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902, was as follows:

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Bacon, eggs, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy, macaroni and cheese, pickles, bread, coffee.

Supper: Apple pie, crackers, cheese, bread, butter, tea.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Beef fricassee, potatoes, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Boiled shoulders, gravy, potatoes, succotash, horse-radish, bread, coffee.

Supper: Corn-meal mush, milk, bread, butter, tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Hash, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, gravy, bread, coffee.

Supper: Bread pudding with sauce, corn bread, bread, butter, tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Beef stew, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Boiled ham, potatoes, gravy, greens, bread, coffee.

Supper: Peach sauce, bread, butter, biscuit, tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Beef fricassee, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, potatoes, gravy, green onions, tomatoes, bread, coffee.

Supper: Rolled oats, milk, bread, butter, sirup, tea.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Stewed codfish, eggs, coffee cake, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Bean soup, mackerel, potatoes, gravy, bread, coffee.

Supper: Rice pudding, gingerbread, bread, butter, tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Hash, bread, butter, coffee.

Dinner: Veal pie, lima beans, bread, coffee.

Supper: Cracked wheat, milk, bread, butter, tea.

The hospital was found in a generally satisfactory condition. Dr. Clark, the surgeon, not feeling well enough to accompany me during the inspection, was represented by Dr. Comfort.

The hospital has a capacity for 292 patients. The daily average number of patients was 237, and the total number of members treated during the year was 2,952.

There were 171 deaths during the year at the hospital, 5 elsewhere on the reservation, and 18 outside of the Home, or a total of 194. Of these 182 died from natural causes, 3 from suicide, and 9 from accidents. Their average age at the time of death was 72 years. The cost of a funeral to this Branch was \$13.58. This was next to the lowest cost.

The number of employees in the hospital was 91 members and 19 civilians, who received on an average of \$158.38 each per year for their services. The bathing facilities at this hospital are the best of all the Branches, having but 16 patients to each tub. There were 13 members considered permanently insane and 35 showing indications of disordered minds, and they were quartered in the west wing of the hospital. By way of recreation they are given rides, in pleasant weather taken to walk with attendants, and to listen to the band concerts. None were kept in close confinement or in padded cells. The facilities to properly care for them are not ample.

There were 20 members who were totally blind and 44 with impaired eyesight; they all require assistance, and are read to usually twice daily by two readers.

The inspection of the accounts and records show the following at this Branch:

The statements prepared and the condition of the accounts in the treasurer's office greatly facilitated the inspection of the receipts and disbursements.

A post cashbook, ruled on the debit and credit sides to show the receipts and disbursements under each of the heads as appears on the post fund abstracts, would lessen the labor in entering each day's transactions, consolidate the record, and expedite the examination of the accounts.

The sum of \$326 was collected since the last inspection from the members as commutation for penalties imposed for infractions of the rules and regulations. This custom seemingly is not in accord with the rule (paragraph 172, Home Regulations) that requires the sentence to be worked out, except as provided in certain cases, and paragraph

171 of same regulations in restricting penalties to be inflicted does not provide for the payment of a sum of money as an alternative.

The shop accounts were kept with much labor, especially the bakery, but seemingly to no purpose, as no practical use was made of the data so carefully recorded, such as the development of a relation between the articles fabricated and those issued for the fabrication.

The manner in which the record showing the distribution of imperishable property is kept at this Branch, and at some of the others, did not seem to be satisfactory, as the record did not always show the steps by which the present charge was reached. As no instructions were issued with the book, there was a lack of uniformity in the manner of keeping the record.

All matters not commented upon at this Branch were found to be satisfactory.

#### NO. 6.—REPORT OF THE INSPECTION OF THE DANVILLE BRANCH, MADE AUGUST 25 TO 28, 1902.

Post-office. National Home, Danville, Ill.

Local manager. Gen. Thomas J. Henderson, Princeton, Ill., is the local manager of this Branch, and his term of office as such expires in 1908.

Officers. Governor, Col. Isaac Clements; treasurer, Maj. J. M. Barger; surgeon, Maj. D. C. Jones; quartermaster, Capt. E. B. Wheeler; commissary of subsistence, Capt.

John W. Newlon. These are the same officers who were on duty at this Branch at the preceding inspection, except Maj. J. M. Barger, who assumed the duties of treasurer on December 31, 1901, vice Maj. William C. Tuttle, resigned.

The period of construction at this Branch has passed, and the debris caused by construction has been removed from around the buildings. Only a little grading remains to be done before the thoroughly finished appearance of this Home will become fully apparent. Roads and walks have been laid out and lawns prepared, and young trees have been planted and ornamental flower beds set out, and the conservatory was being enlarged. It was observed, however, that some repairs are already required on several of the barracks, while the buildings are still new. This is especially the case with the walls, particularly in the attics. Considerable plastering has already fallen in some places, and in other places it was badly cracked.

The progress made in administration was found to be beyond what had been anticipated; and the degree of interest shown in the performance of duty was not expected, for it is not easy, at a new Branch, to reach in so short a time the results that had been attained here. The lines of management as laid down at the Marion Branch seem to be closely followed at this one, and a better guide could not be found.

Complaints were made by some members that clothing had been stolen from them. Every effort should be made to prevent this being done.

The reservation consists of 320.56 acres of land, none of which is leased, and it is situated near the town of Danville, Ill., from which this Branch takes its name and with which it is connected by convenient traveling or

Buildings and grounds.

transportation facilities. The grounds are gradually being adorned and beautified and already present a very attractive appearance, especially for a new Branch.

The barracks, 14 in number, are of brick and are arranged in the form of an ellipse near the north end of the Home reservation. Thirteen of them were originally intended to accommodate 170 men each, and 1 to accommodate 225; and at the time of inspection they were actually occupied by an average of 140 men each. None of the members were sleeping in basements or on floors, but 419 of them were sleeping in attics, and 9 employees were sleeping in the storehouse, stable, library, mess hall, and memorial hall—places not originally intended for sleeping.

The dormitory floor space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 95; lowest, 71; average, 83. The dormitory air space per man, in cubic feet, is: Highest, 1,608; lowest, 550; average, 1,070. The dormitory window space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 26.5; lowest, 3.5; average, 15. The 14 barracks contain altogether 84 bath tubs, the bathrooms being conveniently located; and there are other bath tubs at the Branch as follows: Fourteen in the hospital, 4 in the guardhouse, 2 in the nurses' quarters, and 1 in the power house. There was an average of 17 men to each bath tub, and the facilities at this Branch for bathing seem all that could be desired. The toilet-room facilities seem almost as good, the average of men to each urinal being 12, and to each hopper, 6. Toilet paper is reported not to last for the full time of issue, and newspaper was used in the closets.

The system of ventilating the barracks is by fire flues, and they are heated by low-pressure steam heat. They are lighted by electricity, the current being obtained from the Danville Railway and Light Company.

The beds and lockers were found in good condition.

Since the previous inspection the following permanent improvements, which were then being constructed, have been completed, and are now occupied, to wit:

**Improvements.** From the general fund, 1 barrack, cost \$35,000; 1 lodge and gateway, cost \$5,000; 1 memorial hall, cost \$35,000; and from the Ward fund, 1 chapel, with separate rooms for Catholics and Protestants, cost \$20,000. Only one permanent improvement was in course of construction at the time of the present inspection—a greenhouse and propagating house, cost \$5,000, to be paid from the general fund. The cost of repairs (not construction) during the year was reported as \$27,039.80, and the most considerable repair was said to be an elevator extension in the storehouse that cost \$595. The greenhouse, now under construction, is the only permanent improvement authorized for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903; and the improvements that will be needed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, are reported as an ice-making machine, estimated cost \$24,937.50; additional concrete walks, estimated cost \$12,120; additional fencing, estimated cost \$3,485; and grading, estimated cost \$10,220; total estimated cost, \$50,762.50.

**Population.** The total number of officers and members present and absent on June 30, 1902, was 3,013, of whom 2,216 were present and 797 absent. This was a net gain in population of 776 over the preceding year—much the largest gain of



all the Branches. The gain and loss in membership may be indicated as follows:

Gain:		
By first admission .....	795	
By readmission .....	391	
By transfer from other Homes .....	335	
		1,521
Loss:		
By transfer to other Homes .....	113	
By discharge .....	301	
By honorable discharge .....	18	
By dropped from rolls .....	166	
By death .....	130	
By transfer to Government Insane Asylum .....	17	
		745
Net gain .....		776

The average number of officers and members present and absent during the year was 2,725, of whom 2,074 were present and 651 were absent. The average present was 626 greater than for the preceding year. The greatest number present at any one time was 2,457, on April 3, 1902; the lowest was 1,561, on July 17, 1902—giving an extreme range of 896 members. The greatest number absent on any one day was 995, on May 5, 1902, and the lowest number absent during the year was 442, on July 10, 1902. An average number of 17 men were temporarily cared for during the year, and the total number cared for during the year was 3,759, and they were of an average age of 62.11 years.

The number of men admitted to this Branch from the Spanish war, etc., has been 153, of whom 4 have died, 9 have been discharged, 1 has been honorably discharged, 22 have been dropped from the rolls, and 2 have been transferred, leaving a total of 115 on the rolls on June 30, 1902.

At the time of inspection there was a total of 2,223 officers and members present, and 838 members absent. A review was held on August 27, 1902, at which time the total number of officers and members in camp was 2,129, and the number in line at review was 1,130, all of whom were in uniform. The letters "N. H. D. V. S." were not on the collars of the blouses worn by the officers. The review was very satisfactory. It was not preceded by an inspection. The officers marched, carrying swords, which were also carried by the captains and non-commissioned staff. The command was formed in column of platoons, and much interest was shown. The companies seemed, as in the barracks, to try to excel each other. It was noted, however, that the band had no drum-major, the leader of the band performing that duty. It would seem to be better that he should be in the band, and be the leader of the music, instead of being in front to direct the marching.

The principal offenses committed were reported as having been drunkenness, bringing intoxicating liquors into the grounds, disorderly conduct in quarters or on the grounds, and absence without leave. The penalties attached to the committing of these offenses are labor without pay and confinement to the limits of the Home grounds. The total number of members offending was stated as 391, and the total number committing no offense as 3,368, or 89+ per cent of the whole number cared for during the year.

Discipline.

The total number of trials held during the year was reported as 544, of which 147 were for drunkenness, 90 for absence without leave, and 307 for other offenses. There were no trials for fence jumping. Sixty-six members were tried twice, and 33 were tried more than twice. Of the members tried, 340 were punished and 51 were not. No fines were imposed. The greatest number drunk on any one day was 27, on January 11, 1902, subsequent to a pension day. No members were in confinement at the time of inspection. The longest sentence then being served was 45 days extra duty without pay, and no pass for a stated time. The guardhouse is located southeast of the barrack circle, and was found in good condition.

The facilities for amusements consist of a theater, library, band, concerts, boating, fishing, billiards, pool, croquet, quoits, etc.

The library is located on the second floor of the general mess hall building, and was in good condition. It has only just started, and at the date of inspection contained 250 volumes, and these may be taken out by the members without conditions. Twenty-five newspapers and 53 periodicals are subscribed and paid for, and as yet no free ones have been received. The average daily attendance in the library is reported as 25. The few books in the library have all been received since the close of the last fiscal year, and therefore no further statistics on this subject are accessible.

The band consists of 23 civilians and no members of the Home. Its total cost for the year, including the subsistence and other allowances of the musicians, was \$7,996.64. The average monthly compensation of the leader is \$100, and of the other members of the band \$25.

The average cost per year for a musician was \$399.63, the next to highest of all Branches and \$19.47 above the average of the Home as a whole. The average cost of a concert was \$41.21, the next to highest and \$9.10 above the average of the Home as a whole.

During the year 194 free concerts have been given—62 indoors and 132 out of doors—and it is stated that they were all well attended. There are two band stands, both in good condition—a permanent one at the south end of the barrack circle and a temporary one in a grove near the lake. The band is maintained during the entire year and its members are quartered in a dormitory and receive the same clothing, fuel, and rations that are issued to members of the Home. They play popular and classic music and discourse national airs and American music at each concert. One hundred and fifty new iron benches have been placed around the band stand for the convenience of the members and visitors.

The treasurer of the Branch, acting under the instructions of the council of administration of the post fund, has charge of the theater building, as well as of such entertainments as may be given in it. The theater building is located south of and within 100 feet of the barrack circle and was in good condition, having been but recently completed. It has a seating capacity of 800. As the building was completed after the close of the last theatrical season, no theatrical performances had been given in it up to the time of inspection. Band concerts had been given in it in inclement weather; also some free lectures and some celebrations by the soldiers' associations.

There are 12 boats on the lake, which members may use without charge. To civilians there is a charge of 25 cents per hour for the use

of the boats for two persons. The total receipts for the year from this source was reported as \$264.90, with total expenses of \$86.90, a profit of \$178.

The billiard hall is on the second floor of the general mess hall and was in good condition. It contains 1 billiard table, 1 pool table, and 1 pigeonhole table, all in good condition. The tables are frequently in use, and there is no charge for games. Quoits, croquet, and similar outdoor games are played. There are 4 card rooms in each barrack and 2 card tables in each room. Facilities are ample for all who desire to play cards or other games. Chess, checkers, and dominos are also played in the card rooms, where the members are privileged to assemble at any time to play them. It was stated that the amusement rooms are frequently inspected by a commissioned officer.

The societies among the members consist of Lawton Post, No. 792, Grand Army of the Republic, with 69 members, which meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month; Encampment No. 155 of the Union Veteran Legion, with 126 members, which meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays in each month; and a temperance club of 200 members, which meets on Monday nights. These societies are said to have a good effect upon discipline.

Religious services are held in the two chapels—Protestant and Catholic—which are well adapted for the purpose, and have a seating capacity of 296 each. The Protestant chaplain lives on the Home reservation and the Catholic chaplain lives in the town of Danville. The first receives \$75 and the second \$50 per month. Protestant services are held on Sundays and on three week-day evenings, and Catholic services are held on Sundays and holy days. It was reported that all these services are well attended, the average attendance at the Protestant services being 200 and at the Catholic services 150. It was stated that the Protestant chaplain had held 151 services during the year and the Catholic chaplain 76. Each made frequent visits to the sick, of which no record had been kept. Their other duties consist of officiating at funerals, visiting members in barracks, and in general supervision over the spiritual welfare of the members.

Fifty acres are under cultivation as a farm, but as yet there is no garden. The buildings pertaining to the farm are the stables and the greenhouse, which were found in good condition. The value of the farm stock on hand on June 30, 1902, was reported as \$1,000, which stock consisted of 10 horses. As yet there are no cows, pigs, or other animals kept on the farm. As there were no cows, of course no milk was produced. The average number of employees on the farm during the year was reported as 24—23 members and 1 civilian. Three men were employed in the flower garden and 6 were employed in teaming. The public vehicles on hand consisted of 1 ambulance, 2 sloop carts, 3 dump carts, 6 two-horse wagons, and 1 sprinkling wagon, used for Home purposes only. There were also 8 private vehicles and 4 private horses. The 10 public horses are for teaming for Home purposes. So far there has been no occasion to dispose of animals no longer required.

The only farm product during the year was 55 tons of hay, worth \$8 a ton, or \$440, all of which was fed to stock. The cost of maintaining the farm proper during the year was reported at \$3,135; of

the lawn and flower garden, \$792, and of transportation and teams, \$1,290, a total of \$4,717.

The accounts and disbursements pertaining to the several funds were examined from September 9, 1901, the date of the last formal inspection, to August 23, 1902, and the transactions may be summarized as follows (accounts of two different treasurers being consolidated):

	General fund.	Pension fund.	Post fund.	Total.
Balance due last inspection .....	\$64, 113. 89	\$1, 008. 37	\$10, 469. 96	\$75, 592. 22
Received by transfers .....	395, 914. 71	307, 634. 59	9, 838. 76	713, 388. 06
Received from sales .....	4, 170. 46		44, 501. 25	48, 671. 71
Received from collections .....	1, 417. 52			1, 417. 52
Transfers between heads, etc. ....	66. 31	6. 00		62. 81
Refunded; paid erroneously .....	661. 75			661. 75
From canceled checks .....		78. 00		78. 00
Deposit in error .....		55. 60		55. 60
Total to be accounted for .....	466, 334. 64	308, 782. 56	64, 809. 97	839, 927. 17
Expended .....	314, 143. 69	304, 964. 00	47, 247. 72	666, 355. 41
Transferred to officers .....	111, 122. 41	682. 50	9, 838. 76	121, 643. 67
Transfers between heads, etc. ....	696. 98			696. 98
Deposit in error returned .....		55. 60		55. 60
Total accounted for .....	425, 963. 08	305, 702. 10	57, 086. 48	788, 751. 66
Balance due .....	40, 371. 56	3, 080. 46	7, 723. 49	51, 175. 51
	466, 334. 64	308, 782. 56	64, 809. 97	839, 927. 17

All of the above balances were on deposit with the Indiana National Bank, of Indianapolis, Ind., except \$77 cash on hand under the post fund.

The receipts and expenditures under the general fund amounted to \$410,793.26 and \$373,544.15, respectively. Of the total receipts all was by transfer except the sum of \$6,398.55, received from sales and other sources. It was stated that all the disbursements were by check, no payments having been made in cash. There was received on the posthumous account the sum of \$1,410.78, and \$811.99 was disbursed, both the receipts and disbursements being less than half as much as at any other Branch, leaving a balance for the year under this account of \$598.79.

The number of open-market purchases made during the year was 315, amounting to \$11,589.10. These open-market purchases pertained to some extent to each of the subheads of appropriation under the general fund.

The daily average number of men employed during the year under the general fund was 436; of whom 5 were officers, 21 noncommissioned officers, 372 members, and 38 civilians. The total amount paid these employees during the year was \$76,668.05. As compared with the preceding fiscal year, there was an increase of 56 members in this force, which was fully justified, perhaps, by the increase of population at the Branch. During the year it was reported 359 men worked without pay, not as a penalty; and the daily average of such workers was 40. It was stated that they worked as waiters and at scullery work.

The average cost of maintenance per capita at this Branch for the fiscal year 1902 was reported as \$171.40, much the largest of all the Branches in every subhead except in hospital. It is \$34.07 more than the cost of maintenance per capita for the Home as a whole.

During the fiscal year the transactions of the post fund included receipts of \$39,578, of which the Home store took in \$9,678, and the beer hall \$29,000. There were also other receipts as follows: From transportation, \$7,032.84; from amusements, \$264.90; from other sources, \$119.03; total, \$7,416.77, or a grand total of receipts of \$46,994.77. The total expenditures were reported as \$48,698.26, of which \$21,375.14 was for stock for the store. The amount of net profit for the year was reported as \$204.24. Beer is bought in open market, and it was said that 67,520 gallons were bought during the year. This beer cost \$12,967.35, and was sold for \$29,900—a profit of \$16,932.65, or about 134 per cent.

Cash registers are used as a check on business at the Home store, and there is a system of checks at the beer hall.

Only one building pertains to the post fund at this Branch—the store and canteen building. A part of the second story of the mess hall is also used for post-fund purposes, and contains the library and billiard hall.

The average daily number of post-fund employees was 35—15 members and 20 civilians. They are employed as a band, and as employees in the beer hall, library, memorial hall, and in the treasurer's office. During the year the members were paid \$2,526.35 and the civilians \$5,822.66, a total of \$8,349.01. The civilians received an average of 83 cents per day and the members an average of 48 cents per day.

The number of pensioners on the rolls at this Branch on June 30, 1902, was 2,685, which is about 89 per cent of the total membership, present and absent, at that date. Of these pensioners 2,315 were then actually present at the Home. The total amount of pension money received by the treasurer during the past fiscal year was \$283,981.96, of which he paid out \$283,087.99, the sum of \$224,495.17 being paid in currency and \$68,592.82 by check. The balance due pensioners was \$1,263.47, and this belonged to 20 pensioners, 18 of whom had less than \$20 each to their credit and 2 had between \$100 and \$500 each to their credit.

At this Branch 869 men receive a pension of \$12 each a month, 764 receive \$8 a month, 549 receive \$6 a month, 305 receive \$10 a month, 70 receive \$14 a month, 65 receive \$17 a month, 33 receive \$16 a month, 12 receive \$24 a month, and the remainder receive sums ranging from \$8.50 to \$25 a month, the latter (the highest rate paid at this Branch) being drawn by 2 pensioners only. The amount of pensions paid to absentee members during the year was \$55,915.82. Two clerks are employed on pension business at a salary of \$300 each per annum.

There is 1 quartermaster storehouse, which was generally in especially good condition. It was of sufficient capacity for all stores, except lumber and iron. Quartermaster supplies are stored in other places as follows: In the basement of the general mess hall, lumber in basement of barrack, and oil in a frame oil house.

The value of quartermaster stores (current supplies) on hand on June 30, 1902, was reported as \$13,094.75. Property accountability is by receipts. It is inspected by committees, and is issued only upon approved requisitions. Worn-out property is submitted to an inspector-general for action, and lost or destroyed property is submitted for the action of a board of survey. Inventories are said to be

taken monthly, quarterly, and annually. Unserviceable property is sold, destroyed, or utilized in the shops for Home use, according to its kind or condition, as may be directed by the president of the Board of Managers. During the year 39,208 articles (including units of weight and measure) of quartermaster property that originally cost \$14,695.23 were condemned, and they were sold for \$399.37.

The clothing was found to be in a very satisfactory condition. The per capita cost of clothing at this Branch is higher than that of any of the other Branches; and it is claimed that this arises from the fact that this Branch has been receiving a large number of new members who had to be supplied with new clothing, and in addition a stock of overcoats had to be laid in. The value of the clothing received from the depot during the year was reported as \$26,193.88. Clothing to the value of \$14,002.15 was inspected and condemned during the year. This is an average of \$6.75 per man of the average population present. The value of the clothing issued during the year was stated as \$15,309.70.

Secondhand clothing is issued and reissued until worn out. It is charged to individuals on the property account books. Worn-out clothing is condemned and sold as rags. The average length of time the different articles are worn before being cast off is: Blouse, one year; cap, one year; dress coat, three years; greatcoat, five years; drawers, six months; hat, nine months; shirt, six months; shoes, one year; socks, two months; suspenders, one year; trousers, one year; vest, one year. There is no allowance table.

It was reported that during the year the sum of \$254.38 was received from the sale of rags and \$20.70 from the sale of clippings. These articles brought the following prices per pound, viz: Clippings, 0.075 cent; sky-blue kersey, 12 cents; dark-blue cloth, 9 cents; dark-blue flannel, 9 cents.

The laundry building is located east of the barracks, near the power house, and was in good condition. It is of ample capacity. Clothing is sent weekly to the laundry, where it is listed and verified.

It was reported that during the year \$3,374.01 was expended by the laundry for labor and materials. Fifteen laundrymen and 1 laborer are employed.

The fire department was tested and found satisfactory. The response to the alarm was prompt. No fires occurred during the year for which the fire department was called out. The protection against fire consists of city water, with the Home lake as a reserve for emergencies, chemical engines, fire extinguishers, hand grenades, water buckets, hose, etc. It is adequate, and was in good condition. It was tested monthly. The fire organization consists of civilian employees in the engineer department, with the members of the band, the guards, and the members as an auxiliary force.

The condition of the steam pipes was such that it became necessary to construct a tunnel from the power house to the mess hall; and it may be necessary later to construct one from the power house to the hospital. Before the construction of the tunnel much time, labor, and expense was involved to keep the pipes in repair, or to find the leaks.

The shops of the engineer department are 6 in number; the bakery,

located in the general mess hall; the horseshoeing and repair shop, in separate frame building on the east side of the grounds, south of the laundry; the printing shop, in the basement of the headquarters building; the shoe shop, in the basement of Barrack D; and the tailor shop, in the basement of Barrack D. These all appear to be suitably located, except the shoe and tailor shops.

The quartermaster has charge of the shop accounts; and it was stated that inventories are taken quarterly and annually by him. Issues to the shops are charged off of the permanent property accounts. Materials and services are charged to each shop at cost; and the work done is credited to each shop at cost, plus 10 per cent.

Water is furnished this Branch from the Danville city waterworks, which is satisfactory in every respect, except that it needs filtering. There is a gravity system of sewers, in good condition; and it was stated that the drainage and sewerage systems could not be improved, so far as was known.

There is, as yet, no lighting plant at this Branch, but there are 3,351 incandescent lamps.

The steam plant consists of twelve 120-horsepower Babcock & Wilcox water-tube boilers, and it is used for the purpose of heating, cooking, furnishing power, and pumping. It was said to have cost \$80,000, and the cost of maintaining it during the past fiscal year was reported as \$32,140.35—an average cost per horsepower of \$22.83. There are 5,620,187 cubic feet of air space to be heated.

There is no cold storage or ice plant. Ice is purchased at \$4 per ton, which is the largest price paid for ice at any of the Branches. There are 20,404 cubic feet of air space to be cooled.

The dining hall and kitchen were in good condition. Commissary department. The dining hall has a capacity for 56 tables, seating 20 men each—a total seating capacity of 1,120. Tables are set twice for each meal. It was reported that both the dining hall and kitchen are inspected frequently by the surgeon, and also by the governor and commissary. The facilities for receiving and taking care of supplies, and for cooking and serving meals seemed ample. Nothing was suggested as being needed to improve them.

Subsistence supplies are stored in a suitable storeroom, in which no other class of supplies are stored. It was stated that no commissary articles had deteriorated or become valueless during the year on account of poor storage, and that none had been condemned and sold.

An average of 33 persons have been permanently employed in the kitchen and 65 in the dining hall. In addition to these, an average number of 14 have been temporarily detailed in the kitchen and 38 in the dining hall. The average cost of the ration per month was reported as \$5.06, and of the hospital ration, including extra diet, per man per day, 19.71 cents. It was said that no meals had been given to transients not officially connected with the Home. The average pieces of crockery broken per man during the year was reported as 11.62, and the breakage was said to be due to the very hard water used in washing the dishes, which necessitates a great deal of handling. Some of the breakage, it was said, was due to careless handling on the part of the table waiters, who are old and decrepit men. It was stated that none of the members receive outdoor relief in subsistence at this Branch. The method of purchase, issue, cooking, and serving fixes the respon-

sibility at each stage, and is calculated to insure accurate accountability and record of stores.

The following is the bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902, to wit:

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Bacon and eggs, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Roast mutton, mashed potatoes, turnips, bread, oleo, coffee, apple pie.

Supper: Rice with raisins, coffee cake, bread, oleo, coffee.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Beef stew, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef soup, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Cold meats, stewed fruit, rolls, oleo, tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Corned beef hash, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Mess pork, spinach, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Hominy, stewed fruit, bread, oleo, tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Breakfast bacon, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Roast mutton, potatoes, bread pudding, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Boiled rice, sirup, bread, oleo, tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Beef stew, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Boiled ham, cabbage, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Hominy, stewed fruit, bread, oleo, coffee.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Baked mackerel, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Codfish, potatoes, baked beans, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Cream cheese, stewed fruit, bread, oleo, tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Corned beef hash, bread, oleo, coffee.

Dinner: Corned beef and turnips, potatoes, bread, oleo, coffee.

Supper: Stewed fruit, gingerbread, bread, oleo, tea.

The hospital was in very good condition. The building consists of the executive building, 3 stories; three wings and annex, with 2 stories and an attic each. It has a capacity for 202 patients and also for 60 convalescents. The ventilation is by air flues. The hospital basements are used for storage rooms, meat and vegetable rooms, laboratory, wound-dressing room, and repair shop, and the attics are used as quarters for extra-duty men. It was believed that the sanitary condition of the Branch could not be improved.

The daily average number of sick in the hospital during the year was reported as 199.50, of whom 162.41 were in the hospital, 23.31 in barracks or sick call, and 13.78 in convalescent companies. The total number of patients treated during the past fiscal year, including sick-call patients, was reported as 3,599, and on an average they were treated 9.86 days. The total number of patients admitted to the hospital during the year was 1,032, and the total number of deaths was 130—the smallest number of all the Branches—of whom 90 were in the hospital, 3 elsewhere on the reservation, and 37 outside of the reservation. Of these 129 died from natural causes and 1 as the result of accident. Their average age at death was 64.82 years, and the death rate per thousand of the whole number cared for was 34.58 and of the average present and absent 28.91. The number of members buried in the Home cemetery during the year was 74. Coffins are made by contract at a cost of \$7.05 each with box.

The principal chronic diseases were rheumatism, malaria, and cardiac diseases. The principal acute diseases were cystitis and diarrhea. The principal surgical diseases were fractures, hydrocele, and



amputations. There were no diseases of a local origin, it was said; and erysipelas was the only infectious or contagious disease that prevailed during the year, and of this there were 21 cases.

The facilities for bathing in the hospital consist of hot and cold water baths in each ward, and there is an average of 30 patients to each bath tub. They are bathed once a week, unless more frequent baths were ordered by the surgeon.

The average number of hospital employees engaged was reported as 92, of whom 76 were members and 16 were civilians. Their cost for the year was reported as \$15,622.93, of which the members received \$8,508.96 and the civilians \$7,113.97. The average number of patients per employee was 11.2, and the average cost of each employee was \$150.20.

The insane members are cared for in ward 6, on the first floor of the northeast wing of the hospital, and none of them sleep under the level of the ground. The recreation afforded them is walking with an attendant. None of them were in close confinement or in padded cells. No special provisions or conveniences are supplied in their quarters, and they are not permitted to mingle with the other members. The facilities seemed ample for properly caring for the insane, and there were no suggestions as to how these facilities might be improved.

Forty-eight members showed indications of disordered minds during the year, and 17 of these were considered permanently insane. The principal classes of illusions were senile dementia, melancholia, delusional insanity, and epileptic mania. During the year 17 were sent to the insane asylum at Washington, D. C.

There were 5 members here who were totally blind, the smallest number of all the Branches, and 11 whose sight was so impaired that they were unable to read. All are read to twice a day by a reader employed for that purpose. The per cent of totally blind to the annual average present was reported as 0.024.

The inspection of the accounts and records at this Branch show the following:

There was no line of demarcation on the cash records between the accounts of the late treasurer and those of the present one, although the check stubs show that checks were issued by the retiring officer for the amount of his balance in favor of his successor. The idea seemed generally to prevail that the fiscal accounts of the disbursing officer at the Branch Homes are not personal accounts, the account of a bonded officer whose sureties are liable only for transactions that can be clearly shown by the records to have occurred since the date of the approval of his bond to and including a final transfer of all funds for which he was liable during his incumbency of the office.

Of the balance of pension fund on hand at date of inspection, \$3,080.46, there was \$248.50 to the credit of deceased members, \$608.47 of members sent to the hospital for the insane, and \$874.50 to members in the Home hospital.

The authorized depository for the funds of this Branch is at Indianapolis, Ind. Were it possible to have one of the local national banks designated for this purpose, it would be of advantage to the Home and avoid the expense of expressage on currency, and the treasurer could make daily instead of monthly deposits of cash receipts.

The frequent changes by transfer of the members from one organization to another involves much labor upon the officers who keep the company clothing books. During the month of June 271 such transfers were requested. While it is desired to contribute as much as possible to make the surroundings of the men agreeable, it is thought that good and weighty reasons should only prevail in granting such requests.

All matters connected with this Branch, and not Concluding remarks. commented upon in this report, were found in satisfactory condition.

**NO. 7.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF MARION BRANCH, MADE  
AUGUST 28 TO SEPTEMBER 2, 1902.**

**Post-office.** The post-office of the Marion Branch is National Military Home, Grant County, Ind.

**Local manager.** The local manager of the Branch is Col. George W. Steele, of Marion, Ind., whose term of office as such expires in 1908. Colonel Steele has also been secretary of the Board of Managers since April, 1900.

**Officers.** The officers of this Branch are Capt. Justin H. Chapman, governor; Maj. John Q. Adams, treasurer; Maj. A. D. Kimball, surgeon; Dr. Harry Miller, first assistant surgeon; Dr. L. H. Marks, second assistant surgeon; Dr. O. W. McQuown, third assistant surgeon; Rev. D. E. Myers, Protestant chaplain; and Rev. H. C. Weichmann, Catholic chaplain. These are the same officers who were on duty at this Branch at the preceding inspection except Maj. John Q. Adams, treasurer, who assumed the duties of that office on October 25, 1901, vice Capt. J. H. Sanderson, who retains his position as quartermaster and commissary.

**General conditions.** This Branch retains its former degree of excellence, especially in its administration. The grounds, roads, and buildings were all in good condition. It was noted, however, that the fire escapes from the attics were only iron ladders placed against the perpendicular walls, which, in case of fire, would probably all prove an invitation to accident and injury to those attempting to use them. Especially would this be likely to occur if the fire should take place during the winter. Some provision should be made to replace these ladders by steps, which are the only suitable kind of fire escapes in a Home for old men.

The competition between the companies has been developed at this Branch far beyond that attempted at any other Branch, and most excellent results with improved discipline is reported. The good work in this direction done at this Branch is already having its effect at the other Branches, where an increased interest in this matter has been aroused.

The salute to the flag at retreat is also excellently done at this Branch. None but good results can follow.

The desired degree of harmony is reported to exist among the officers of the Branch.

**Buildings and grounds.** The reservation belonging to the Home consists of about 300 acres of land; and in addition to this some 347 acres are leased by the authority of the Board of Managers for the purpose of obtaining natural gas, the lease to extend

as long as gas can be obtained. For this land the sum of \$347 a year is paid, with an additional \$100 for each gas well sunk.

The barracks, with a few minor exceptions, were in a very satisfactory condition, but it was noted that in the open spaces around the dormer windows in the attics many articles were stored, such as old rags, old shoes, bottles, tin cans, etc. These spaces should be covered by boards to prevent their use for such purposes.

There are 12 barracks, and they are built of brick and are centrally located. Six of them were originally intended to accommodate 100 men each and 4 to accommodate 140 men each. At the time of inspection they were actually occupied by an average of 126 men each. None of them were sleeping in basements or on floors, but 169 were sleeping in attics. Others were quartered in places not originally intended for sleeping purposely, as follows: One at the renovating shop, 12 over the kitchen, 2 at the pumping station, 1 at the guardhouse, 2 at the stable, and 2 at the gate lodge; total, 20. All of the barracks have basements, and they are used for various purposes, such as for furnace rooms and for the storage of quartermaster supplies.

The dormitory floor space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 80½; lowest, 52; average, 68½. The dormitory air space per man, in cubic feet, is: Highest, 948½; lowest, 697; average, 822½. The dormitory window space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 17; lowest, 11½; average, 14½.

Nine of the barracks have 2 bath tubs each (1 on each floor) and 3 have 4 bath tubs each (2 on each floor), and there are no others, except 4 in the hospital. In 9 of the barracks the average of men to each tub is 59, and in the other 3 the average of men to the tub is 35. The average to each urinal is 30, and to each hopper 30. It was reported that toilet paper does not last for the full time of issue, and newspapers are used. There is no free barber shop here for nonpensioners, as at many of the other Branches.

The barracks are ventilated by open fireplaces, transoms, and 2 flues from basement to roof, with connections on each floor. For heating purposes they all have fireplaces, 6 have furnaces, and 10 have stoves. Owing to the reduced supply of natural gas, which was formerly the only fuel used, the heating of the buildings proved to be somewhat embarrassing, and stoves for the use of coal were used. No suffering resulted, and a new heating plant producing steam is to be installed. The system of lighting is by electricity, which is obtained from the electric-light plant on the Home grounds.

The beds and lockers were in good condition.

The improvements (not repairs) begun, authorized, or contemplated during the present fiscal year are a blacksmith shop (completed), barracks, dining room and kitchen combined, and officers' quarters, in course of construction; and a heating plant and guard barrack to be constructed. The estimated cost of these constructions is \$166,170; and the estimated cost of the repairs that will be necessary this year is reported as \$7,510.

The constructions estimated for for the fiscal year 1904 are: Quartermaster's storehouse with equipment, \$27,000; cement walks, \$1,380; remodeling present quartermaster's storehouse, \$8,000; total, \$36,380.

The total number of officers and members, present and absent, on June 30, 1902, was 2,392, of whom 1,686 were present and 706 were absent. This was a

Population.

net gain in population of 75 over the preceding year. The gain and loss in membership may be indicated as follows:

Gain:	
By first admission.....	391
By readmission .....	147
By transfer from other Homes .....	77
	<hr/> 615
Loss:	
By transfer to other Homes.....	78
By discharge.....	278
By honorable discharge.....	25
By dropped from rolls.....	25
By death.....	131
By transfer to Government Insane Asylum.....	3
	<hr/> 540
Net gain.....	<hr/> 75

The average number of officers and members present and absent during the year was 2,402, of whom 1,796 were present and 596 were absent. The greatest number present on any one day was 1,970, on February 20, 1902, and the lowest number present on any one day was 1,630, on June 11, 1902, giving an extreme range of 340 members. The greatest number absent on any one day during the year was 758, on June 11, 1902, and the lowest number absent was 487, on February 20, 1902. It was reported that an average of 11 men were temporarily cared for during the year, and that the total number cared for during the year was 2,932, and they were of an average age of 64.62 years.

The number of men admitted to this Branch from the Spanish war, etc., has been 42, of whom 2 have been dropped from the rolls, 2 discharged on surgeon's certificate, 3 discharged at request, 1 honorably discharged, and 1 died; total, 9; leaving 32 present on June 30, 1902.

At the time of inspection there was a total of 1,782 officers and members present in camp and 623 members absent. A review was held on August 31, 1902, at which time there were 1,766 officers and members in camp, of whom 898 were in line, or 50 per cent of those present in camp, all being in uniform. Home officers, captains, and the non-commissioned staff wore swords. The review was well executed and was preceded by the "escort to the colors." The march, in column of platoons, was very satisfactory, and the music was good. The officers marched in the review. Much interest is always displayed in the military exercises at this Branch. They were well rendered, and the beneficial effects are evident.

The principal offenses committed during the year are reported as being: Arrested by the civil authorities for drunkenness; bringing whisky into the Home; fence jumping; absence without leave while under sentence; drunk, and drunk and disorderly. The penalties attached to the commission of these offenses are: Labor without pay; suspension of pass, and discharge. The total number of members offending during the year was reported as 339, and the total number committing no offense as 2,593, or 88.45 per cent of the whole number cared for during the year. The total number of trials held during the year was reported as 738, of which 398 were for drunkenness; 177 for fence jumping, much the largest number of all Branches; 12 for absence without leave, and 151 for other offenses. Seventy-two members were tried twice, and 84

were tried more than twice. It was stated that 339 members were punished. No fines were imposed. The greatest number drunk on any one day was said to be 13, subsequent to a pension day. One member was in confinement at the time of inspection. Members under confinement are placed in the guardhouse, which is located south of the quartermaster building and was found in good condition.

#### Amusements.

The facilities for amusements at the Marion Branch consist of a theater, library, band, concerts, billiard room, clubroom, cards, checkers, chess, etc., and

quoits, etc.

The library is located in the second story of the mess hall, and was found in good condition. Books may be taken out by the members on the order of the company commanders. It was reported that there were 4,401 volumes in the library; 20 papers were subscribed for and 25 were furnished free; and 12 periodicals were subscribed for and 1 was furnished free. The number of volumes added during the year was 347, of which 199 were by purchase and 148 by presentation. It was stated that no volumes were disposed of during the year, and that during that time books were called for 38,313 times. The average attendance in the reading room was 300. Fiction is said to be the class of reading matter that was in greatest demand, and the 10 books most read during the year were reported as *A Dash for a Throne*, *By Right of Sword*, *Richard Carvel*, *The Crisis*, *David Harum*, *Eben Holden*, *Uncle Terry*, *Greatest Gift*, *Dri and I*, and *Ralph Marlowe*.

The band consists of 23 men—1 member and 22 civilians—and it cost for the year, including the subsistence and other allowances of the civilians, the sum of \$8,445.07. The average monthly compensation of the leader was \$100; of the members, \$15, and of the civilians, \$23.75. During the year 222 free concerts were given—92 indoors and 129 out of doors—all of which are said to have been well attended. There is one band stand, which is located in the center of Steele circle. The band is maintained during the entire year, and the civilian musicians are quartered in barracks on the same conditions that members are, and they receive the same clothing, fuel, and rations that the members do. A part of the second story of the headquarters building is still used for quarters for the band leader and the adjutant. This should not be, as this building was not intended to be used for such purposes. The band discourses classical music, as well as the popular airs of the day, and it renders national airs and music by American composers at every concert.

An amusement committee has charge, under the direction of the governor of the Branch, of the theater building, and also of the entertainments given in it. The building is centrally located, and was in good condition. It has a seating capacity of 500. The character of performances given in it during the year were dramas, lectures, and concerts; and it was reported that the theater was used for no other purposes. During the year thirty-eight free and two paid performances were given, and the house was always filled. There is no charge for admission to members, but the civilian employees pay 10 cents, the officers 25 cents, and all others 50 cents. The receipts from this source during the year were reported as \$30.10, with a total expense of \$450 for performances.

The billiard room is on the second floor of the mess hall, and was in good condition. There are in use 3 billiard tables and 1 pool table, all

of which were in fair condition. There is no charge to members for games. The tables are said to be in use at all times during hours. The facilities for playing cards, checkers, chess, dominos, backgammon, etc., are ample for all who desire to play them; and members are privileged to assemble in the card room on the second floor of the mess hall to play these games at any time between 7.30 a. m., and 4.30 p. m. Quoits is the only outdoor game played. It was stated that the amusement room is inspected once a week by a commissioned officer.

The societies among the members are as follows: Union Veteran Legion, 82 members, meets every two weeks in the assembly room; Chloride of Gold Club, 68 members, meets twice a month in the club room; the Christian Union, 297 members, meets every two weeks in the assembly room; the Home Christian Temperance Union, 302 members, meets every two weeks in the assembly room; and the Society of the Sacred Heart, 34 members, which meets irregularly in the chapel. These societies have an aggregate of 802 members, and are said to have a good effect upon discipline.

Religious services are held in a suitable chapel, which has a capacity of about 300 each for Catholic and Protestant worshippers. Religious services are held twice a week, and are said to be well attended; the average attendance at the Catholic services being 300, and at the Protestant services, 200. Each chaplain receives \$50 a month, and the Catholic chaplain lives at Gas City, Ind., and the Protestant chaplain at Marion, Ind. It was reported that each of them had held about 104 services during the year; and that the Catholic chaplain had paid 150 visits to the sick, and the Protestant chaplain 104. Their other duties are said to consist in conducting funerals, and in correspondence relative to Harris Library.

Ninety-six acres are under cultivation, 74 as a farm and 22 as a garden. The wagons and other wheel transportation are better cared for here than at any other Branch, being painted a deep blue color, and they have the letters "N. H. D. V. S." painted on them. The animals and harness were in excellent condition. The former were paraded for inspection, and looked well and seemed sound. The stable also was in excellent condition. The wagon shed is not sufficiently large to fully protect the wheel transportation and farming implements, and should be enlarged.

The buildings pertaining to the farm consist of 2 barns for hay and quartering animals, 1 wagon shed, 1 tool shed, and 2 cottages—one for the farmer and one for the chief gardener. These were all in good condition. The value of the farm stock on hand on June 30, 1902, was reported as \$1,835, and the stock consisted of 8 public horses and 5 public mules. There were also 16 public vehicles—5 farm wagons, 2 carts, 1 handy wagon, 1 ambulance, 1 carriage, 1 surrey, 3 express wagons, and 2 sprinklers, all of which are used for home purposes only. There were also 1 private vehicle and 1 private horse on hand. When animals are unfit for use they are condemned and sold, and losses by death are accounted for by boards of survey. There are no cows kept, and milk sells at 20 cents per gallon, by the quantity, in the nearest town. The dairy from which this Branch purchases milk, and which is several miles away, was visited and found to be in excellent condition.

The transactions in farm products at this Branch during the year may be summarized as follows:

Value of products turned into commissary .....	\$2,688.92
Fed to stock .....	605.25
Sold .....	71.05
<hr/>	
Cost of maintaining farm proper .....	4,402.90
Cost of maintaining lawn and flower garden .....	1,656.72
Cost of maintaining teams and transportation .....	2,379.75

Credit for use of transportation not known.

The average number of men employed during the year on the farm was 9; in the garden, 17; and in teaming, 6; a total of 32.

The accounts and disbursements pertaining to the several funds were examined from September 14, 1901, the date of the last previous inspection, to August 28, 1902, and the transactions may be summarized as follows (accounts of two different treasurers consolidated), to wit:

Designation.	General fund.	Pension fund.	Post fund.	Total.
Balance due last inspection .....	\$14,240.51	\$6,845.06	\$5,920.95	\$27,006.52
B. Treasury drafts .....		2,495.41		2,495.41
By transfers from officers .....	286,345.46	293,774.53	8,119.78	558,239.77
From sales .....	6,396.89			6,396.89
From collections .....	18.00		28,993.57	29,011.57
From disallowances .....	45.00			45.00
Transfers .....	126.50			126.50
Total to be accounted for .....	307,172.36	303,115.00	43,084.30	653,321.66
Expended .....	237,370.74	224,878.40	34,419.25	496,668.39
Transferred to officers .....	36,650.58	5,470.26	6,011.06	48,131.89
Transfers .....	126.50			126.50
To correct error .....	.99			.99
Accounted for .....	274,148.81	230,348.66	40,430.30	544,927.77
Balance due .....	33,023.55	72,766.34	2,604.00	108,393.89
	307,172.36	303,115.00	43,084.30	653,321.66

All of the above balances were on deposit, except \$51.72 cash on hand under the post fund.

The receipts and expenditures under the general fund amounted to \$257,037.62 and \$229,259.78, respectively. Of the total receipts, all was by transfer, except \$8,712.62 received from sales and other sources. It was reported that all the disbursements were made by check, no payments under this fund having been made in currency. The sum of \$3,145.95 was received on account of the posthumous fund, and \$2,314.67 was paid out, leaving a balance for the year, under this account, of \$831.28.

It was reported that during the year there were 177 open market purchases made at this Branch, amounting in the aggregate to \$4,093.54; and the articles purchased in open market were fresh vegetables, fresh fruits, 3 horses, sole leather, awnings, casings for gas wells, etc.

The daily average number of men employed under the general fund during the year was said to be 467, of whom 4 were officers, 19 were noncommissioned officers, 394 were members, and 50 were civilians. The total amount paid these employees during the year was reported as \$78,522.65, as follows: To officers, \$8,346.83; to noncommissioned officers, \$5,160; to members, \$40,395.07; and to civilians, \$24,620.75.

As compared with the preceding fiscal year, there was an increase of 32 employees under this fund. It was stated that an average of two members per day worked without pay, not as a penalty, during the year, and they were employed on the council of administration on effects of deceased members.

The average cost of maintenance per capita at this Branch for the fiscal year 1902 was reported as \$128.90—the next smallest cost per capita of all the Branches, and is \$8.42 less than the average of the Home as a whole.

**Post fund.**

The buildings pertaining to the post fund at this Branch are the Stinson Memorial Hall, the greenhouse, and the Home store building. No other buildings are used in whole or in part for post-fund purposes. The Home store is in a very prosperous condition, and doing a large business. The system obtains of giving some credit to the best men.

During the past fiscal year the transactions of the post fund included receipts of \$28,832.95, all of which was taken in by the Home store. There were also other receipts as follows: From transportation, \$6,716.97; from amusements, \$146.19; from other sources, \$167.58; total, \$7,030.74, or a grand total of receipts of \$35,863.69. The total expenditures for the year were reported as \$34,866.29, of which \$19,855.66 was for stock, and the amount of net profit for the year was reported as \$9,209.38, or next to the largest amount of all the Branches. Beer is not sold at this Branch. Two National cash registers are used as a check on business at the Home store.

The average daily number of employees under the post fund was 38—18 members and 20 civilians. Five of these were said to be employed in the Home store, 26 in amusements, and 7 in miscellaneous employments. During the year the members were paid \$1,569.99, and the civilians \$4,392.50, an aggregate of \$5,967.49.

**Pension fund.**

The number of pensioners on the rolls at this Branch on June 30, 1902, was 2,235, which is about 93.5 per cent of the total membership, present and absent, at that date, and is the largest percentage of all the Branches. Of these pensioners 1,673 were then actually present at the Home. The total amount of pension money received by the treasurer during the fiscal year 1902 was \$287,751.68, of which he paid out \$286,171.63, the sum of \$201,186.82 being paid in currency and \$84,984.81 by check. The balance due pensioners was \$8,056.13, and this belonged to 176 pensioners, of whom 160 had less than \$100 each to their credit, 14 had between \$100 and \$500, and 2 had between \$500 and \$1,000 each.

At this Branch 814 men receive a pension of \$12 a month each, 271 receive \$6 a month, 348 receive \$10 a month, 103 receive \$14 a month, and the others receive sums ranging from \$7 to \$30 a month. The latter is the highest rate paid at this Branch, and it is received by three pensioners.

Two clerks are employed on pension business, one of whom receives \$360 and the other \$300 per annum.

There is one quartermaster storehouse, which was in good condition, but is of insufficient capacity and was found in a very crowded condition. Quartermaster supplies are also stored in portions of barracks Nos. 1, 4, and 12.

The value of quartermaster stores (current supplies) on hand June 30, 1902, was reported as \$1,141.36. It was stated that property is



accounted for in accordance with regulations. Inventories are taken monthly. It was reported that unserviceable property is disposed of as ordered by the inspector-general of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. It was reported that during the year quartermaster property that originally cost \$28,521.92 was inspected and condemned, and it sold for \$1,672.39.

The value of the clothing received from the depot during the year was reported as \$19,279.92, and it was issued during the same period to the amount of \$22,477.83. It was also reported that clothing to the amount (original cost) of \$20,461.61 was inspected and condemned during the year. This is an average of \$11.39 per man of the average population present.

It was reported that during the year the sum of \$1,521.13 was received from the sale of rags at this Branch, and that no clippings were sold.

#### Laundry.

The laundry building is centrally located, was in fair condition, and is of ample capacity. Certain days are allotted each week to each company and to the hospital for sending clothes to be washed. There is no fixed amount that each member is permitted to send. The private underwear of the members will be laundered, but in the place of Home clothing only. The average number of pieces of clothing laundered per month during the year was reported as 12,129.

Eighteen men are employed in the laundry—a foreman, a laborer, 2 firemen, and 14 laundrymen. It was stated that during the year \$4,035.95 was expended for labor and materials in the laundry, next to the largest amount of all the Branches.

#### Fire department.

The fire department was tested and found to be in good condition, but the response to the alarm was slow. The drill, however, was had on a Sunday afternoon, when many members of the fire department were absent. Some system of providing substitutes for absentees should be adopted. A fire may occur on a Sunday. No fires occurred during the past year for which the fire department was called out. The protection against fire consists of a steel standpipe 125 feet high, kept full of water; fire hydrants, and chemical engines and hose reel. This apparatus was in good condition and seemed adequate. It is said to be tested the last Friday in each quarter. The fire department consists of an organized company, composed of 16 members and 6 civilians, and also of a detail of 16 members in each barrack.

#### Engineer department.

The shops of the engineer department are 4 in number, namely, the repair shop, south of Black road; the pipe shop, in the basement of Barrack No. 6; the tin shop, under the bakery, and the blacksmith shop, south of the quartermaster building. The tin shop and pipe shop are not suitably located.

The water supply is pumped from 7 wells 87 feet deep, and 2 limestone wells, into the standpipe, which has a capacity of 240,000 gallons. The water was reported to be satisfactory in every respect except as to quantity. There are both sanitary and storm sewers, and they were in good condition, and it was stated that they required no improvement.

This Branch has an electric light plant that cost \$32,000, and was

maintained during the past fiscal year at a reported cost of \$1,800. There are 23 arc lights and 3,000 incandescent lights.

There is no ice plant here. Ice is purchased at \$3 a ton, and its aggregate cost during the past year was \$2,117.50. There are 5,700 cubic feet of air space to be cooled.

This Branch has no steam plant except that for heating and cooking at the dining hall and kitchen. An appropriation of \$100,000 for the installation of a heating plant at this Branch has been made by Congress.

The bakery and the basement of the dining room were not in as good condition as they were in at the last inspection. Roaches and dirt were found. The dining room has a capacity for accommodating 1,072 persons at a sitting. From 7 to 16 of the tables are set the second time at each meal. The dining hall and kitchen are said to be inspected monthly by the surgeon and frequently by the governor, treasurer, and quartermaster. The facilities appeared ample for receiving and taking care of supplies and for cooking and serving meals, and it was reported that nothing is needed to improve them.

Subsistence supplies are stored in the quartermaster building, and the rooms occupied for this purpose are satisfactory, except that they are of insufficient capacity. It was stated that no articles had deteriorated or become valueless during the past year on account of poor storage. Subsistence supplies that originally cost \$699.47 were condemned during the year, and those sold brought \$10.50.

It was reported that during the year an average of 22 persons have been permanently employed in the kitchen and 75 in the dining room, and in addition to these an average number of 17 have been temporarily detailed for duty in the kitchen, but none in the dining hall. The average cost of a ration per month, including its components produced on the farm, was reported as \$4.084, and the average cost of the hospital ration, including extra diet, per man per day was \$0.2662. It was stated that during the year no meals had been given to transients not officially connected with the Home. The average number of pieces of crockery broken per man during the year was given as 3.23, which is a low average. It was said that this breakage was due to "handling." It was reported that at this Branch 6 members receive outdoor relief in subsistence, at an average monthly cost of about \$4.75. They received no other allowances in the way of outdoor relief. The method of purchase, issue, and cooking are said to fix responsibility at each stage, and to insure accurate accountability and record of stores.

The following is the bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902, viz:

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Fried ham, boiled potatoes, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Roast veal with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, stewed tomatoes, green onions, pie, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Cookies, cheese, stewed fruit, bread, butter, and tea.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Sliced boiled ham, baked potatoes, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: S. p. shoulder, Boston baked beans with mess pork, boiled potatoes, pickles, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Rolled oats, sirup, stewed fruit, bread, butter, and tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Corned-beef hash, catsup, hot biscuit, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Beef served hot with gravy, beef vegetable soup, crackers, pickles, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Cheese, stewed fruit, bread, butter, and tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Beef fricassee, fried potatoes, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef with brown gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, green onions, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Stewed fruit, sirup, bread, butter, and tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Irish stew, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: S. p. shoulder, boiled potatoes, stewed navy beans, green onions, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Ginger cake, cheese, stewed fruit, bread, butter, and tea.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Fried mackerel, boiled potatoes, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: Codfish stewed with egg sauce, s. p. shoulder, mashed potatoes, lima beans, green onions, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Sliced corned beef, baked potatoes, catsup, bread, butter, and tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Corned-beef hash, catsup, bread, butter, and coffee.

Dinner: S. p. shoulder, boiled potatoes, stewed navy beans, bread, butter, and coffee.

Supper: Corn-meal mush, sirup, stewed fruit, bread, butter, and tea.

The hospital was found in good condition, with some minor exceptions, such as a few dirty windows. The hospital is composed of the administration building, kitchen, and dining room, north wing, south wing, boiler house, and morgue. It has a capacity for 215 patients, and also quarters for 94 convalescent patients. The system of ventilation is by perfation and extraction. The hospital basements under the administration building are used for the storage of medical supplies, empty barrels, etc. Those under the dining room are used as sculleries, and those under the wards are used for heaters and for storing soiled linen. The hospital attics are used for the storage of the personal baggage of the patients and as sleeping quarters for employees. It was stated that the sanitary condition of the Home might be improved by the construction of special quarters for tuberculosis patients.

The daily average number of sick at the Branch during the year was reported as 374, of whom 201 were in the hospital, 83 in convalescent companies, and 90 in barracks or sick call. The average daily number at sick call was 90. The total number of patients treated during the past fiscal year, including sick-call patients, was stated to be 2,502, and on an average each was treated 9.46 days. The total number of patients admitted to the hospital during the year was 508, and the total number of deaths was 131—98 in the hospital, 1 in convalescent company, 6 elsewhere on the reservation, and 26 outside the reservation. Of the deaths, 127 were from natural causes, 1 from suicide, and 3 from the results of accident. Their average age at death was 66.51 years; and the death rate per thousand of the whole number cared for at the Home during the year was said to be 44.67, and of the average number present and absent, 54.58. Ninety members were buried in the Home cemetery during the year. Coffins are made at Marion, Ind., at a cost of \$8.30 each.

The principal chronic diseases that prevailed during the year were reported as chronic diarrhea, myalgia, and pulmonary tuberculosis. The principal acute diseases were alcoholism, malarial fever, and dys-

entery. The principal surgical diseases were cerebral hemorrhages, hemorrhoids, and hernia. It was stated that there were no diseases of a local origin, and the only contagious or infectious disease that prevailed was influenza.

Four bath tubs constitute the facilities for bathing in the hospital, and there is an average of 54 patients to each tub. Each patient is bathed when admitted, and is required to bathe once a week thereafter, unless excused by the surgeon. Bedridden patients are bathed once a week, and oftener if necessary.

The average number of persons employed in the hospital was reported as 77, of whom 56 were members and 21 were civilians. Their cost for the fiscal year aggregated \$15,301.50, of which the members received \$6,863.50, and the civilians \$8,438. The average number of patients per employee was 4.85, and the average cost of each employee was \$198.71.

It was reported that 373 different kinds of drugs, preparations, etc., were used in the dispensary during the year, of which 310 were bought and 63 were prepared in the dispensary. The amount expended for drugs, etc., during the fiscal year was \$1,595.49.

Insane members, when dangerous, are confined in the guardhouse and are transferred to the Government Hospital for the Insane as soon as practicable. Others are quartered in the hospital and convalescent wards. None of them, it was stated, sleep under the level of the ground. No special recreation is afforded them; nor are any special conveniences or provisions supplied in their quarters. Those of impaired cerebration are permitted to mingle with the other members.

It was reported that during the year 23 members showed indications of disordered minds, and of these 9 were considered permanently insane. During the year 3 insane members were sent to the Government Hospital for the Insane at Washington, D. C. The average annually sent to the asylum was reported as 4.8.

At this Branch there were 9 members who were totally blind, and 23 whose sight was so impaired that they were unable to read. They are all read to twice a day by a reader employed for that purpose. It was stated that they need no assistance beyond what they receive as patients, except to be piloted around the grounds. The per cent of totally blind to the annual average present was reported as 0.05.

The inspection of the accounts and records at this Branch shew the following:

At some of the Branch Homes the council of administration appointed on the effects of deceased members submit triplicate copies of its report in case the member had money and personal property at time of his death, to be distributed as follows: One copy to the adjutant, one to the quartermaster, and the third to the treasurer. In case property and no money was found, or money and no property, only duplicates were issued, one copy for the adjutant and one for the officer to whom the money or property was turned over. In case neither money nor property was found, but one copy was made out, and that the adjutant retained for his files. At this Branch but one copy was made in any event, and that was filed in the adjutant's office. It would seem that the other method was preferable, as each officer held a copy of a report bearing on his own records, and in the case of the treasurer it assumed

the character of a credit voucher. It is suggested that the blank might provide a place for the officer to whom the effects were turned over to acknowledge their receipt, and thus fix his responsibility.

It was noticed that a bill amounting to over \$100 was divided into three vouchers to avoid, apparently, the rule published in section 4, paragraph 400, Home Regulations, 1900.

Clerks on pension and post funds, employed in the treasurer's office, are paid from the general fund. This does not seem to be in accord with paragraph 388, Home Regulations, 1900.

An attempt was made to verify some of the accounts in the imperishable ledger, but it was not possible to accurately account for the clothing on hand at date of inspection, owing to the confused condition of the records.

The ledger shows the amount of bread fabricated each ten days as entirely expended during that period, leaving none on hand, although it was admitted that as a fact there was always some on hand. The baker's book and the ledger were at variance as to the amount of bread fabricated during the same period. The bakery seemed to be doing a very profitable business, as during the month of July, 1902, at a cost of \$629.75, there was fabricated bread, biscuit, cake, and pies to the value of \$950.84, or very nearly 51 per cent profit.

Ice is delivered daily by the contractor. There is no place for storage of ice for issue, yet by the ledger balances were shown on hand, after charging sales, on the last days of May, June, and July, 1902. It could not be ascertained where this balance was kept.

The names of all persons admitted are entered in the blotter of applications for admission, even those who have been transferred from other Branches. If the man is admitted, all the data provided for in this record is entered in the historical record, and if not admitted, the record made becomes apparently of no practical value. The matter entered in the burial register is duplicated also in the historical register. There were no index to general orders and special orders.

Concluding remarks. All matters connected with this Branch and not commented upon in this report were found to be in satisfactory condition.

#### NO. 8.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF THE CENTRAL BRANCH, MADE SEPTEMBER 2 TO 6, 1902.

Post-office. The post-office of the Central Branch is: National Military Home, Montgomery County, Ohio.

Local manager. The local manager of this Branch, whose term of office as a member of the Board of Managers expires in 1906, is Gen. Charles M. Anderson.

Officers. The officers of the Branch are as follows: Governor, Col. J. B. Thomas; treasurer, Col. A. J. Clark; quartermaster, Capt. W. H. Ortt; commissary of subsistence, Col. John W. Byron; assistant adjutant-general, Maj. Carl Berlin; inspector, Maj. Alvin S. Galbraith; surgeon, Maj. D. C. Huffman; chaplains, Rev. H. A. McDonald and Rev. C. S. Kemper.

General conditions, etc. This Branch being so large, all matters of administration assume more magnitude than at any other Branch. The duties of the governor at his court for the trial of offenders and his paper work in his office require so much

of his time that he loses personal touch and supervision of his Branch, so that he must make his observations through the eyes of his subordinates. It is thought that better results can be obtained if a deputy governor should be appointed at this Branch, but at no other, unless at such of them as should at any time reach a membership of 5,000 present. If this should occur at any other Branch it would be unfortunate, for the best administration can not be obtained at any Branch with so large a population, and one-half this number is much better for administrative purposes.

The grounds, roads, and buildings, generally, at this Branch were found in a very satisfactory condition. The new combination barrack (Franklin) is an unusually fine building—in fact, the finest barrack seen at any of the Branches of the Home. It was about ready for occupancy, and orders had been issued to the effect that “until otherwise ordered, only members who have good Home records during the preceding twelve months, who are 70 years of age or over, and of cleanly personal habits, and the blind, and others disabled so as to require special waiters at the general mess hall, will be considered eligible for membership in this barrack.” The other barrack buildings were in much better condition than at the last inspection; cobwebs had all disappeared, and the walls were clean, having been freshly calcimined or whitewashed, the woodwork painted, and they were in good order; but it is unfortunate that the storage facilities are so limited, as from this cause results the keeping of trunks, valises, grips, and boxes in the barracks—generally under the beds. Many of the beds had under them wooden slats to form shelves, upon which many unauthorized articles were hidden and stored. Orders were given by the governor to discontinue the use of these shelves; and if some general storage place could be found for at least the trunks, which would remove them from the barracks, it would be a decided improvement.

A new propagating house is being constructed. This conservatory, with its surrounding houses, grounds, and beautiful plants and flowers, is surely an object of beauty which would do credit to any park in any of our great cities. It is a means of diversion and entertainment for the old men. It is a very important adjunct of the Branch, and a delight to the many visitors; but it seems that enough has been done, and the conservatory should not be further enlarged.

The reservation of the Central Branch consists of <sup>Buildings and</sup> 578 acres of land, located near the city of Dayton, Ohio, with which it is connected by steam and electric roads. No additional land is leased. In the matter of size, this reservation ranks fourth among the Branches. The grounds are very beautifully laid out and improved and adorned, and contain nearly 100 buildings, the whole comprising a prospect that is very attractive, and speaks volumes for the zeal and enterprise of the officers of the Home.

Altogether there are 29 barracks, which are located on the various avenues in the central part of the camp. Eighteen of them are built of brick and 11 are frame constructions, and all the latter are old style and lack many of the conveniences of the more modern barracks. As originally constructed these barracks were intended to accommodate an average of 133 men each. At the time of inspection they were actually occupied by an average of 135 men each, and none of these were sleeping in the basements, attics or on the floors. Some men were quartered in places not originally intended for sleeping.

The dormitory floor space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 78; lowest, 61; average, 72. The dormitory air space per man, in cubic feet, is: Highest, 1,069; lowest, 631; average, 835. The dormitory window space per man, in square feet, is: Highest, 10½; lowest, 6; average, 8½.

There are only 19 bath tubs in the barracks; but there is a general bath house containing 31 tubs, and also 1 tub each at the central boiler house, gas house, and hospital boiler house. The average of men to each bath tub is 71. There are 80 toilet rooms and 159 urinals located in the wings and corners of the various barracks; and there are also 2 large latrines with 80 seats, and also 8 hoppers and urinals in the shops, etc. The average of men to each urinal is 23 and the average to each hopper is 12. It was reported that toilet paper does not last the full time for which it is issued, and newspapers were being used, which will probably result in the stoppage of pipes at an inconvenient time.

The barracks are ventilated generally by windows and doors. There are ventilating flues in barracks Nos. 1, 6, and 21 and in the Franklin Barrack. The system of heating is by steam. The grounds are lighted by gas, and gas is in all the buildings. In addition, there are electric lights in the band quarters, officers' quarters, hotel, hospital, chapels, theater, library, headquarters, mess hall, club house, band stand, and stable. The light is supplied from the Home gas and electric plants.

The beds, bedding, and lockers were in good condition.

Of the improvements made at this Branch during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, the first in importance is the new building for old men's barracks, with dining room and kitchen (which has already been mentioned), named "Franklin Barrack" in honor of Gen. William B. Franklin, who was so long president of the Board of Managers of the Home. Many improvements have been made along electrical lines, including the installation of a new dynamo and engine, improvement of the buildings where the electric-light plant is located, the wiring of several of the officers' quarters and the band stand, and the placing of electric cables in the tunnels. The work of completing the electric plant so as to supply electricity for the whole Home is progressing favorably. Extensive repairs have been made at the main hospital building, including the replacing of the old toilet rooms with new and modern ones; the painting of the building, and placing door and window screens where they were greatly needed. Two new 75-horsepower boilers have been added to the plant at the laundry boiler house, which also supplies steam for the electric plant. A new compound pump (5,000,000 gallons) has been put in at the lake pump house, and the suction line into the large lake has been extended. Last spring a connection was made between the Dayton waterworks system and the Home Wagner wells pumping station, so that during dry seasons, when the supply of water from the Wagner wells is insufficient for Home use, it can be supplemented from the Dayton waterworks. The treasurer's quarters, which were entirely unsuitable for an officer's use, have been repaired and will soon be ready for occupation. Much repair work in the way of painting, etc., has been done during the year to various Home buildings, including barracks, mess halls, officers' quarters, farm-buildings, etc. The tunnel system has been extended some during the year. Many repairs have been made

on the avenues, and new cement walks and roadways have been built. One old frame barrack and two or three old frame storehouses and sheds have been torn down during the year. Some changes and repairs have also been made at the Home hotel.

The cost of the constructions made during the year is given as \$74,444.52, and the cost of the repairs made during the same time as \$65,353. The improvements said to be needed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, are a quartermaster storehouse, fire escapes for the hospital, tunnels, dairy barn, and it is estimated that they will cost \$80,800. It is also estimated that the repairs that will be needed for the same fiscal year (1904) will cost \$56,500.

The total number of officers and members present and absent on June 30, 1902, was 5,688, of whom 4,464 were present and 1,224 were absent. This was a net gain of 9 in population over the preceding year. The gain and loss in membership for the fiscal year may be indicated as follows:

Gain:	
By first admission .....	727
By readmission .....	411
By transfer from other Homes .....	131
	1, 269
Loss:	
By transfer to other Homes .....	155
By discharge .....	430
By honorable discharge .....	67
By dropped from rolls .....	169
By death .....	415
By transfer to Government Insane Asylum .....	24
	1, 260
Net gain .....	9

The average number of officers and members present and absent during the year was 5,750, of whom 4,712 were present and 1,038 were absent. The greatest number present on any one day was 4,979, on December 21, 1901; and the lowest number present on any one day was 4,413, on July 11, 1902—giving an extreme range of 566 members. The highest number absent on any one day was 1,236, on July 10, 1901; and the lowest number absent on any one day was 866, on March 4, 1902. It was stated that an average of 11 men were temporarily cared for during the year; and that the total number cared for during the year was 6,950; and they were of an average age of 65.69 years. Fifty-five of the members had been absent for more than ten years, and 85 of them had been absent from five to ten years.

On June 30, 1901, there were 13 Spanish war soldiers on the rolls of this Branch; and during the fiscal year 46 others were admitted, making a total of 59; 17 were discharged and 3 died, leaving a total of 39 on the rolls on June 30, 1902.

At the time of inspection there was a total of 4,645 officers and members present in camp, and 1,062 members absent. A review was held on September 5, 1902, at which time there were 4,637 officers and members present in camp; of whom 1,895 were in line—all in uniform. The letters "N. H. D. V. S." were not on the collars of the blouses worn by some of the officers. The inspection and review was preceded by escort to the colors. The ceremony was satisfactory, but the adjutant was the only officer who marched in the review.



**Discipline.**

The principal offenses committed during the year were reported as intemperance and absence without leave; and the penalties for the commission of these offenses was work without pay and restriction of passes. The total number of members offending during the year was reported as 1,450, while the total number committing no offense was 5,500, or 79.1 per cent of the whole number cared for during the year. The total number of trials held during the year was 2,487, of which 789 were for drunkenness, 976 for absence without leave, and the remainder for other offenses. There were no trials for fence jumping. The total number of members tried was 1,450, and of these 177 were tried twice, and 305 were tried more than twice. All of them were punished. No fines were imposed. The greatest number drunk on any one day was 59, on December 26, 1901, subsequent to a pay day. Two men were in confinement at the time of inspection. Members under punishment are confined in the guardhouse, which is located in the southwest part of the camp, and was found in good condition.

**Amusements.**

The facilities for amusements at the Central Branch consist of a theater, veteran's clubhouse, and cards and other games, which are provided for in the clubhouse, which is unusually handsome and complete.

The library building is located in the central part of the camp, and was in good condition. The conditions on which books may be taken out are that they are to be returned within two weeks, and are not to be taken from the Home grounds. At the time of inspection there were 23,184 books in the library; 72 papers were subscribed for and 191 were furnished free. It was reported that 425 volumes had been added during the year, of which 258 were by purchase and 167 by presentation, and that no books had been disposed of during that time; and also that books had been called for 39,301 times during the year. The average attendance in the library was 500; and it was stated that fiction was the class of reading that had been in greatest demand, and that the 10 books most read during the year were: *The Crisis*, *Stringtown on the Pike*, *They that Took the Sword*, *Soldier of Virginia*, *The Hidden Hand*, *Victor's Triumph*, *Maid of Maiden Lane*, *Helmet of Navarre*, *Dri and I*, and *Lysbeth*.

The band consists of 30 men—28 members and 2 civilians—and is maintained during the entire year. The total cost of the band for the past year, including the subsistence and other allowances of the members, was reported as \$11,002.14. The average monthly compensation of the leader is \$125; of members, \$21, and of civilians, \$23.57. During the year 209 free concerts were given—177 indoors and 132 out-of-doors—all of which, it was said, were well attended. There are two band stands, both in good condition—one located on the campus and one at the hospital. The civilian musicians are quartered in the post-fund building, and they receive the same fuel and rations that the members do; and, as to clothing, they receive a full band uniform, except underclothes. The classes of music played are classical, national, and popular. National airs and American music, it was said, are played at every concert.

An amusement committee, composed of officers of the Branch, has charge of the theater building, and of the entertainments given in it. The theater building is situated in the central part of the camp, and was in good condition. It has a seating capacity of about 1,500.

Plays, concerts, lectures, etc., are said to have been the character of entertainments given in it during the year. No special rates, privileges or rebates are allowed here by professional performers. No charge of admission is made to members. To others the charges are 10, 15, 25, and 50 cents; and the receipts from this source during the year were reported as \$285.85, with a total expense of \$7,055 for performances.

The billiard room is in the veteran's club house, and was in good condition. It contains 5 billiard tables, 6 pool tables, 1 bagatelle table, 1 pigeon-hole table, and 4 shuffle boards, all in good condition. There is no charge for games, which are almost constantly in progress when the rooms are open. The veteran's club house also has 18 card-rooms. Chess, checkers, backgammon, etc., are also played; and members can assemble at the club house, or in barracks and hospital, every week day to play these games, if they so wish. It was said that the amusement rooms are inspected weekly by a commissioned officer. Quoits was said to be the only outdoor game played.

The societies among the members are as follows: A Grand Army of the Republic post, with 248 members, which meets weekly in the society hall; a Union Veteran Legion, with 164 members, which meets weekly in the veterans' clubhouse; and the Soldiers and Sailors' Auxiliary to the Women's Christian Temperance Union, with 300 members, which meets weekly in the chapel. It was stated that these societies are not aids to discipline. The Gold Club, as an organization, was disbanded in 1900, there being no more applicants for membership, the veterans' clubhouse, the library, etc., supplying the social wants of the members.

Religious services are held in the chapel and the additional chapel, both of which are in every way suitable for the purpose. The chapel has a seating capacity of about 450, and the additional chapel of about 550. There are two chaplains, Protestant and Catholic, both of whom live on the Home grounds. The Protestant chaplain receives \$125 a month, furnished quarters, fuel, light, and forage for one horse. The Catholic chaplain receives \$110 a month, furnished quarters, fuel, and light. There are six Protestant and seven Catholic services per week, all of which are said to be fairly well attended, there being an average attendance of about 350 at the Protestant services and about 550 at the Catholic services. It was reported that the Catholic chaplain makes daily and the Protestant chaplain almost daily visits to the sick. Their other duties consist in visiting members in barracks, attending the sick, officiating at funerals, etc.

The farm consists of 285 acres under cultivation, but there is no vegetable garden. During the year, it was stated, 24,355 gallons of milk were yielded by the cows, and it was worth 15 cents per gallon, by the quantity, in the nearest town. A considerable enlargement of the dairy, with a large increase of its herd of cows, is under consideration. If adopted, it will involve an expenditure of probably \$20,000 to build barns for the cows, quarters for the civilian employees, and sheds for the feed, as well as decrease or prevent a crop of hay from the ground. It is doubtful whether this expenditure would be wise. Milk can usually be purchased cheaper than it can be produced by the Home, but the quality of the outside milk would not be so good. The value of the live stock on hand on June 30, 1902, was reported as \$2,795,

and the stock consisted of 21 horses for farm and road work, 1 mule for cart work, 1 bull, and 30 cows. There are also a number of deer in the park. Cattle or other animals no longer required are disposed of by being condemned and sold. There are 21 private vehicles and 8 private horses on hand. A charge of 25 cents per day, not including the care of the horse, is made for keeping private horses that are not entitled to forage.

There are 11 buildings pertaining to the farm, all in fairly good condition for old buildings, and they consist of a frame building for the dairymen, a frame dairy barn and stable, 4 cattle sheds, a frame storeroom, a carriage house, a frame stable, a wagon shed, a frame corn-crib, and a frame carriage house. There were 39 public vehicles, as follows: 3 ambulances, 1 hearse, 2 carriages, 3 buggies, 1 omnibus, 5 one-horse carts, 14 two-horse carts, 1 treasury wagon, 8 one-horse wagons, and 1 street sprinkler.

The transactions in farm products during the fiscal year, at this Branch, may be summarized as follows:

Value of farm product turned to commissary .....	\$3,056.40
Fed to stock .....	2,129.27
Sold .....	1,223.03
<hr/>	
Cost of maintaining farm proper (about) .....	4,100.64
Cost of maintaining lawn and flower garden .....	8,160.16
Cost of maintaining transportation and teams .....	3,159.89

Credit for use of transportation not known.

The average number of employees on the farm during the year was said to be 14; in the flower garden, 11; on the lawn, 38; in teaming, 22; total, 82.

The accounts and disbursements pertaining to the Central Branch were examined from September 19, 1901, the date of the last inspection, to September 2, 1902, and the transactions may be summarized as follows (the accounts of the treasurer of the Branch and the treasurer of the post fund being consolidated), to wit:

Designation.	General fund.	Pension fund.	Post fund.	Total.
Balance due last inspection .....	\$87,392.26	\$214,633.70		\$302,025.96
Transfers from officers .....	694,135.54	566,326.87	\$12,830.70	1,262,798.14
From sales .....	17,611.34		126,901.13	144,512.47
From collections .....	13,497.73		8,696.21	22,188.94
Disallowances .....	58.20			58.20
Outstanding checks .....			10.03	10.03
To be accounted for .....	812,695.10	770,960.57	147,928.07	1,731,583.74
Expended .....	680,586.66	715,166.36	124,279.82	1,520,032.84
Transferred to officers .....	65,551.90			65,551.90
Allowances as to heads .....	58.20			58.20
Outstanding checks .....			9.15	9.15
Accounted for .....	746,196.76	715,166.36	124,288.97	1,585,652.09
Balance due .....	66,498.34	55,794.21	23,639.10	145,931.65
	812,695.10	770,960.57	147,928.07	1,731,583.74

All of the above balances were on deposit in the National Bank of Commerce, New York, and the Third National Bank, of Dayton, Ohio,

except \$88.47 cash on hand under the pension fund and \$205.98 cash on hand under the post fund.

During the year the receipts and expenditures under the general fund amounted to \$777,062.41 and \$674,509.73, respectively. Of the total receipts, all was by transfer, except \$34,796.15, which was received from sales and other sources. The expenditures, it was said, were all by check, no cash payments having been made. The sum of \$16,946.85 was received on account of the posthumous fund, and \$10,906.03 was disbursed, leaving a balance for the year under this fund of \$6,040.82.

It was reported that during the year 1,231 open-market purchases, amounting to \$18,221.42, were made at this Branch; and the goods so purchased consisted principally of general commissary supplies, vegetables, fruits, eggs and chickens, oysters, plants, seeds, drugs, repairs, and miscellaneous items.

The average daily number of men employed during the year under the general fund was reported as 954, of whom 8 were officers, 42 were noncommissioned officers, 841 were members, and 63 were civilians. The total amount paid these employees during the year was reported as \$172,312.26, of which the officers received \$15,951.75; the noncommissioned officers received \$10,379.16; the members received \$105,828.66, and the civilians received \$40,142.69. As compared with the preceding fiscal year, there was an increase of 68 employes under this fund. It was said that an average of 50 to 75 men per day had worked without pay (not as a penalty) during the year, mostly in kitchen, camp, and police work.

The average cost of maintenance per capita at this Branch for the fiscal year 1902 was reported as \$132.57.

Col. John W. Byron has charge of the post fund, which he manages most carefully and efficiently. The buildings pertaining to the post fund at this Branch are: Band quarters, barber shop and news stand, beer hall, chaplains' quarters, veterans' clubhouse, hotel, library, gate lodge, palm house, propagating houses, beer hall pavilion, pavilion near grotto, iron shed with seats, and the iron shed over a drinking fountain. All these are used for post-fund purposes, except the palm houses, propagating houses, gate lodge, and the chaplains' quarters. The memorial hall is also used for post-fund purposes. A part of the Home store building is used for barrack purposes and a part is used for camp dispensary and guard office.

During the past fiscal year the transactions of the post fund included receipts of \$147,398.97, received as follows: From Home store, \$28,028.16; from beer hall, \$90,410.75; from hotel, \$13,007.29; from transportation, \$14,511.92; from amusements, \$285.85; from other sources, \$1,150. The total expenditures for the year were reported as \$139,252.56, of which \$72,582.04 was for stock for the store, and the amount of net profit for the year was reported as \$2,504.79. It was stated that during the year 200,040 gallons of beer were sold. This beer cost \$38,257, and was sold for \$88,332.05—a profit of \$50,075.05, or about 138 per cent. Cash registers are in use as a check on business at the Home store. At the beer hall tickets are furnished to the cashier in books, each book containing 150 consecutively numbered sheets, each sheet containing 100 tickets, and each ticket selling for 5 cents. Members purchase tickets and exchange them for beer, cigars,

and sandwiches. The tickets, when received by the beer sellers, are dropped through a slot into locked boxes fastened to the counter, the keys to the boxes being in the possession of the superintendent of the post fund. Each day the tickets are taken from the boxes by the superintendent and burned. The cashier is required to settle with the superintendent at the rate of \$5 for every sheet taken from the book of tickets. The personal supervision of the tickets by the superintendent seems to have resulted in a considerable increase of revenue over what was received under the former careless methods.

The average daily number of employees under the post fund was said to be 136—83 members and 53 civilians; and the total amount paid them during the year was \$30,146.92, of which the members received \$13,567.56, and the civilians \$16,579.42.

The number of pensioners on the rolls at this Branch Pension fund. on June 30, 1902, was 5,246, of whom 4,049 were actually present at the Home. The whole number of pensioners on the rolls is about 92.4 per cent of the total membership present and absent on June 30, 1902. The total amount of pension money received by the treasurer during the fiscal year 1902 was \$718,567.83, and in the same time he paid out \$723,381.15—\$542,623.57 in currency and \$180,757.58 by check. The balance due pensioners was \$65,408.60, and this belonged to 478 pensioners, 366 of whom had less than \$100 each to their credit, 97 had between \$100 and \$500 each, 11 had between \$500 and \$1,000 each, and 4 had more than \$1,000 each.

At this Branch 1,468 pensioners receive pensions of \$6 per month, 1,296 receive \$8 per month, 268 receive \$10 per month, 1,942 receive \$12 per month, 73 receive \$14 per month, 63 receive \$16 per month, and the others receive sums ranging from \$7.50 to \$72 per month. The latter is the highest pension paid here, and it is received by one member only. The sum of \$135,472.73 was paid to absentee pensioners last year. Four clerks are employed on pension business, and they receive, in the aggregate, the sum of \$1,800 per year.

Quartermaster supplies are stored as follows: All Quartermaster de kinds of property supplies in the property building, in the central portion of the camp; the clothing of members on furlough and property awaiting condemnation, etc., is stored in the property shed, in the southwestern part of the camp; lumber is stored in the lumber shed, in the southern part of the camp; and farm products, etc., are stored in the root cellar, on the farm. These buildings are all dry, and in good condition as to repairs, but are of insufficient capacity. Quartermaster stores are also kept in barrack cellars, and in the lumber and coal shed, etc.

The value of quartermaster stores (current supplies) on hand June 30, 1902, was reported as \$13,498.15. Purchased property, and property received from the general depot, on its arrival at the Branch is inspected by a committee of three appointed by the Governor. When accepted, an abstract of receipts is made up, and the accounts charged accordingly. Property transferred to the Branch by other Branches is taken up and receipted for by the quartermaster, as per the invoice furnished with the goods received. Issues of property are made only on regular requisition, certified to the quartermaster and approved by the Governor. Issues of perishable property to barracks, hospital, offices, etc., are made monthly and trimonthly, and placed on quartermaster's perishable-property book, after being abstracted.

Imperishable property is not issued, but is placed in use in the various barracks, offices, etc., account of same being kept on the imperishable-property books by the quartermaster. Worn-out property is held by the quartermaster until condemned by an inspecting officer of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers. Lost or destroyed property is cared for through the action of a board of survey. Inventories are taken monthly, quarterly and annually. After condemnation by an inspecting officer of the National Home, unserviceable property is sold or destroyed, as he may direct. It was reported that during the year quartermaster property that originally cost \$64,972.27 was condemned; and such of it as was sold brought \$3,262.86.

Clothing is cared and accounted for under a system of clothing regulations that seems to meet every requirement.

It was reported that during the year the sum of \$1,639.39 was received here from the sale of rags, and that no clippings pertaining to the Branch proper were sold. It was reported that clothing was inspected and condemned during the year that originally cost \$47,831.44. This is an average of \$10.15 per man of the average population present.

The laundry building is located in the southwest part of the camp, and was in good condition. It appears to be of ample capacity. Soiled clothing is put into bundles in the barracks, and is sent to the laundry on Monday mornings. Each member is permitted to send one set of underclothing per week, and other clothing and bedding when necessary. The private clothing of members is not laundered by the Home under any conditions. The average number of pieces of clothing laundered per month during the year was reported as 171,893.

Forty-six men are employed in the laundry, and it was reported that during the year the sum of \$4,980 was expended for labor and \$980.18 for material. None of the work was done outside.

The fire department was tested and found to be satisfactory. The chemical engines were prompt to respond to the alarm—the first in action in two and one-half minutes and the second in four minutes—but the streams from the hose were rather slow, the first stream of water being six and one-half minutes and the second one eight and one-half minutes. No fires occurred during the past fiscal year for which the fire department was called out. For protection against fire, each barrack has 50 or more feet of hose and a number of fire buckets filled with water on each floor, and all hospital wards have from 60 to 100 feet of hose and fire buckets, a fire engine, ladder truck, and 2 hose reels and 3 chemical engines at the fire-department station; 1 hose reel at the laundry, 1 hose reel at the hospital, 6 fire extinguishers on the ladder truck, 25 at the hospital, and 27 distributed through various other buildings in camp; 34 fire hydrants, and a standpipe with 65 pounds pressure. The apparatus seemed adequate and was in good condition. It is said to be tested weekly. The fire department consists of an active and an auxiliary force. The active force consists of 50 men, members and civilians, employed in the engineer's department. The auxiliary force consists of 4 men on each floor in the hospital and the barracks, to be designated by the surgeons and the commanders of companies, respectively. Foremen of shops, dairy, and stable likewise designate 2 men to have charge of the fire apparatus in their respective buildings.

The firemen are drilled, and good and sufficient fire regulations have been promulgated.

The engineer department was satisfactory. The power houses were especially clean, the walls white-washed, and the machinery and boilers painted. The various shops of the engineer department are as follows: The pipe and plumbing shops, centrally located under barracks Nos. 25 and 35, the machine and carpenter shops southwest of the camp and south of the laundry, and the paint and tin shops on the west side of the camp. They all appear to be suitably located.

Water is supplied by a pumping and standpipe system. Water is obtained from a plant of steam-blown wells and local springs, and when these sources of supply are inadequate, from the Dayton water-works. The serious results from the deficient water supply has been remedied by connecting the pipes of the Home with those of the water company at Dayton, and a very equitable arrangement was made by which the Home purchases water at such times and in such quantities as it may require at 10 cents per 1,000 gallons. These purchases are made only when the Home supply is deficient. There is a gravity system of drainage and sewerage in good condition.

The lighting plant consists of electrical and gas works which originally cost \$29,590.27 and \$40,000, respectively. It cost to maintain them during the year: Gas plant, \$7,038.23; electric plant, \$6,536.29. There are 22 arc lights and about 3,450 incandescent lights, and about 6,600 gas lights.

The cold-storage and ice plant consists of 1 single-acting refrigerating and ice-making machine, including a Corliss engine; 2 single-action ammonia-compressing pumps; freezing tank containing 182 cans, and the necessary machinery for providing distilled water for making ice. There are 7 cold-storage rooms. The plant, it was said, cost \$29,000, and it was maintained during the past fiscal year at a cost of \$5,169.40. There are about 34,000 cubic feet of air space to be cooled. The plant has a 30-ton capacity, and makes ice at a cost of about 50 cents a ton.

The steam plant consists of 32 high-pressure boilers, and it is used for furnishing steam for heating buildings, cooking, power for shops, pumping station, gas and electric light, and ice plant. It cost \$115,593, and during the past fiscal year was maintained at a cost of \$99,256.57, or a cost per horsepower of about \$42.15. There are about 7,800,000 cubic feet of air space to be heated.

The bakery, dining hall, and kitchen, as well as the basement, were in a very clean condition and entirely free from roaches, bugs, or other vermin. When the age and size of the building are considered, to keep it so clean is no easy task, and credit is due for the very satisfactory condition in which it was found. The dining room has a capacity for seating 2,044 men, and the tables are set twice for each meal. It was said that the dining hall and kitchen are inspected occasionally by the surgeon at irregular intervals, and also by the commissary of subsistence and the inspector, and on Sundays by such officers as may be assigned for the duty. The facilities seemed ample for receiving and taking care of supplies and for cooking and serving meals.

Subsistence supplies are stored in the central part of the camp, in the property building; and it was stated that no articles had deterio-

rated or become valueless during the past year on account of poor storage.

The average cost of a ration, per month, including vegetables, fruit, and milk produced on the Home ground, was reported as \$4.82, including service. No meals, it was said, were given to transients not officially connected with the Home. The average cost of the hospital ration, including extra diet, per man, was \$0.1681. The average number of pieces of crockery broken, per man, during the year, was reported as about 4.75; and it was said that the breakage was principally due to constant use, and to accident. No members receive outdoor relief in subsistence or other allowances at this Branch. The method of purchase, issue, cooking, and serving, is said to fix responsibility at each step, and to insure accurate accountability and record of stores.

It was reported that during the year there was an average number of 219 persons permanently employed in the dining hall, and 56 in the kitchen. In addition there was an average of 45 temporarily detailed for duty in the kitchen, and none in the dining hall.

The following is the bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902, viz:

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Ham, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Mutton stew, green onions, rhubarb pie, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Stewed prunes, sugar cookies, bread, oleomargarine, cheese, tea.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Pork or bacon and beans, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, bean soup, potatoes, pickles, oleomargarine.

Supper: Boiled rice and raisins, syrup, biscuit, oleomargarine, tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Beef fricassee, mush, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: S. P. shoulders, tomatoes, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Stewed apples, cake, bread, oleomargarine, cheese, tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Corned-beef hash, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, potatoes, onions, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Rice pudding, bread, oleomargarine, tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Irish stew, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef, lima beans, potatoes, pie, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Mush, syrup, biscuit, oleomargarine, tea.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Mackerel, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Fresh fish, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Stewed apples, cake, bread, oleomargarine, cheese, tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Corned-beef hash, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: S. C. shoulders, cabbage, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Rolled oats, syrup, biscuit, oleomargarine, tea.

The hospital was satisfactory, and in much better condition than at the last inspection. Much new plumbing of an excellent quality has been introduced, until the entire main building has been thus equipped. Wire screens have been placed at all of the windows. This hospital, with all of its outside wards, is by far the largest at any of the Branches, and its administration is correspondingly onerous. It is easily apparent that the surgeon tries to personally look after many details. This, with all the professional duties, are too much for one man to do well; and it is believed that better results would be obtained if more responsibilities



were placed upon the assistant surgeons, and that these be held responsible for the proper discharge of their duties. Statements were made that the nurses are considerably annoyed by the noise made by the unloading of coal from the cars immediately in rear of their cottage.

The hospital is composed of the main building, containing executive offices, kitchen, dining room, 7 wards, and dispensing department; 1 double two-story brick building, 1 two-story brick building, 2 two-story brick buildings, 4 one-story frame buildings, and the nurses' cottage. There are also quarters for convalescent companies. The hospital has a capacity for 650 patients, and the convalescent quarters has a capacity for 284. The system of ventilation in the hospital is open grates with natural-gas fires, hot and cold air flues with registers. The basements are used for storage and baggage rooms, with a limited number of sleeping quarters for employees. The attics in the main building were not used; those in the hospital annex are used as sleeping quarters for employees.

The daily average number of sick at the Branch was reported as 983, of whom 465 were in the hospital, 258 in convalescent companies, and 260 in barracks or sick call. The average daily number at sick call was 252. The total number of patients treated during the last fiscal year, including sick-call patients, was 6,617, and on an average each was treated forty-two days. The total number of patients admitted to the hospital during the year was 1,883, and the total number of deaths was 416, of whom 312 died in hospitals, 2 died in convalescent companies, 17 died elsewhere on the reservation, and 85 died outside the reservation. The deaths from natural causes were 325, from suicide, 4, and from the result of accident, 1, of those who died at the Home. Their average age at death was 68.67 years, and the death rate per thousand of the whole number cared for was reported as 59.86, and of the average present and absent, 72.34. Three hundred and eight members were buried in the Home cemetery during the year. Coffins are made at Aurora, Ind., and cost \$5.70 and \$5.75 each. Members are buried in a full suit of Home clothing.

The principal chronic diseases prevailing during the year were reported as bronchitis, cardiac hypertrophy, cardiac hypertrophy and dilatation, constipation, cystitis, gastritis, naso-pharyngeal catarrh, nephritis, and rheumatism. The principal surgical diseases were abscesses, amputations, cataract, hydrocele, retention of urine, tumors, and ulcers. The principal acute diseases were alcoholism, bronchitis, enteritis, gastritis, and rheumatism. It was said that there were no diseases of local origin, and the infectious or contagious diseases that prevailed were erysipelas, gonorrhea, and syphilis.

The facilities for bathing in the hospital consist of 4 bath tubs in each ward, and there are from 28 to 40 patients to each tub.

The average number of persons employed in the hospital was reported as 184—33 civilians and 151 members, and the cost for the year \$32,697.43—the members receiving \$19,345.23, and the civilians \$13,352.20. The average of patients per employee was said to be 5.42, and the average cost per employee in wages \$177.70.

The number of drugs, preparations, etc., used in the dispensary during the year was reported as 345, of which 245 were purchased and 10 were prepared at the Home. The amount expended for drugs, etc., during the past fiscal year was said to be \$10,584.08.

The demented are cared for by special attendants  
 Insane members. None of them were sleeping under the level of the ground. They are quartered or confined in the frame wards in the rear of the main hospital. The only recreation afforded them is open-air exercise with attendants, and carriage drives for the harmless ones. Six were in close confinement, but none in padded cells. The only conveniences or provisions supplied them is separate rooms in the wards. The harmless demented (always varying in number and degree of harmlessness) are permitted to mingle with the other members.

It was reported that during the year 215 members showed indications of disordered minds, and of these 45 were considered permanently insane. The principal classes of illusions were: Senile, paralytic, and alcoholic dementia and chronic mania, all more or less demented. During the year 24 were sent to the Government Asylum for the Insane at Washington. The average sent to the asylum annually for the past five years has been 52. None, it was stated, are sent to State or other asylums.

Fifty of the members were totally blind, and 158  
 Blind members. had their eyesight so impaired as to be unable to read. The totally blind require attendance, and all of them are read to twice daily by readers employed for that purpose. They need no other assistance, it is said, except such as is ordinarily furnished by a nurse. The per cent of totally blind to the average annually present was reported as 0.086.

The inspection of the accounts and records at this Branch show the following:

In the examination of the checks issued by the treasurer of this Branch many appeared drawn on one fund in favor of another fund. This practice does not seem to be in accord with section 3620 of the Revised Statutes and the Treasury Regulations of August 14, 1897, based thereon, which limit all checks drawn on official deposits to be in favor of the party by name to whom the payment is to be made. The accounts are kept by the depositories in the name of the disbursing officer in each capacity, and when it is desired to transfer funds from one account to another the check should be in favor of the treasurer, by name, of the fund to be credited. A check so drawn is not negotiable without the treasurer's indorsement, and the indorsement of all checks affecting the treasurer's accounts should always remain with that officer. Nor is it deemed even ordinary care of the funds intrusted to him for disbursement to sign checks in blank and leave them in the custody of an employee or other person. The better the funds are safeguarded the fairer it is to the employee. Many contracts were noted as made very near the close of the fiscal year for articles and services that apparently were not for the services of that fiscal year, though the vouchers when presented in the next fiscal year were charged back to the prior year. The Comptroller has repeatedly decided that such charges are proper only against the appropriations of the year for the services of which the articles or services are used or rendered.

A number of checks were found for which there were no vouchers present, due to the practice of issuing and transmitting to the payee checks for unsigned vouchers. It has been found to be the safer rule in all Government business not to issue a check until a complete and satisfactory voucher has been received. A payee may embarrass a disbursing officer by delaying the return of a receipted voucher until

after the lapse of period when the accountable officer's accounts should be forwarded.

The quartermaster keeps but one time book, and it seems to answer all the purposes for which two are kept at other Branches.

If the amount of the large pension abstract was taken up in one item much time and labor would be saved, and it is possible now, since the pensioners are paid on a roll, to also, by entering each roll as a voucher, reduce the volume of work heretofore expended on these records. A small discrepancy appeared between the balance of the pension cashbook and that of the ledger.

When members are readmitted on condition that they pay for the clothing charged to them at time of leaving the Home, it is stated that the quartermaster sells to the member and delivers to him the clothing to replace that not produced, then charges the company commander with the clothing, and takes it up on the property ledger as "gained." Would it not be more direct to avoid fictitious entries, as there is no property "gained," by directing the treasurer to take up the money paid by the member as paid by the member for clothing lost?

There does not seem to be any authority to sell the Home clothing, but on the contrary paragraph 222, Home Regulations, provides that "no issue shall be construed as a surrender of the right of the Home to control at all times such clothing." If the property is sold, the Home certainly surrenders its right to control it.

There was no general inventory taken of property on hand June 30, 1902, except such property as was on hand in the various shops.

There was some difficulty in verifying certain articles of clothing reported as on hand at date of inspection. The baker's report of baking is not checked. It is reported that the bread account in the ledger shows as "fabrication" the amount that was issued, and as "expended" the amount reported on the mess requisitions (Form No. 72).

In the adjutant's office the members' papers are filed alphabetically. In the Branches where they are filed numerically corresponding to the member's Home number, the papers seemed to be more readily accessible. When a paper is taken from the files, a slip filed in its place, with a notation showing by whom taken and when, would lead to its more prompt recovery. Papers of this character should habitually be on file, except when withdrawn for immediate use.

Concluding remarks. All matters connected with this Branch, and not commented upon in this report, were found in satisfactory condition at the time of inspection.

#### No. 9.—GENERAL DEPOT.

One of the principal features of the Central Branch is the general depot, where the uniform clothing, underwear, bedding, etc., are manufactured for distribution to the various Branches of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.

The management and supervision of this depot is under the charge of Mrs. E. L. Miller, whose efficiency has long been recognized and is apparent in this well-managed establishment.

The average number of employees who received salaries during the year was 46 members and 2 civilians, the latter being employed as superintendent and assistant superintendent, the former as clerks, foremen, orderly, laborers, packers, porters, suspender maker, trimmer, cutters, sewing-machine operators, engineer, and watchmen. They

received \$11,639.89, or an average of \$242.49 each, and the total was \$269.19 more than paid them last year.

The average number of persons employed on piecework was 54 members and 152 civilians, who were employed in the manufacture of bedding, uniform clothing, underwear, etc., and who received \$46,418.31 during the year, or an average of \$225.33 each, and the total, \$240.08 more than last year.

Purchases and contracts are made by the general treasurer at New York City, and approved by the president of the Board of Managers. All contracts are made after due advertising for bids, excepting for office supplies, repairs to machinery, etc.

The goods are inspected as to measure, weight, strength, and color according to specifications. The articles manufactured are inspected as to their being well and neatly made.

The manufacture of socks has been discontinued, and the new ones furnished by contract give entire satisfaction. The facilities for shrinking the cloth before being used for manufacturing clothing seems to be deficient, and some Branches report considerable shrinkage in the garments when cleaned.

The following table shows the amounts and prices obtained per pound for the various kinds of clippings sold during the year:

Kind of clippings.	Amount sold.	Price per pound.
	<i>Pounds.</i>	
Dark blue.....	6,120	\$0.1413
Sky blue.....	3,925	.16
Flannel, Aberdeen.....	306	.1006
List, blue.....	1,563	.1175
Cotton, white.....	10,104	.0355
Cotton, mixed.....	3,991	.006
Wool waste, blue and white.....	142	.125
Burlap.....	2,206	.02

The following table shows the amount of business transacted at the depot during the past year:

	On hand July 1, 1901.	Purchased.	Fabricated.	Trans- ferred.	Expended.	On hand June 30, 1902.
Machinery, tools, etc.....	\$6,216.58	\$242.79			\$95.92	<sup>a</sup> \$6,363.45
Stationery, etc.....	2,517.55	5,958.94	\$4,691.76	\$7,379.12	\$3,518.83	2,270.30
Raw material.....	50,076.16	143,980.69		195.70	142,810.22	51,050.93
Articles fabricated at depot.....	101,911.79		197,809.75	166,110.73	13.80	<sup>b</sup> 133,597.01
Tableware.....	19,861.88	8,633.32		8,410.36		20,084.84
Ready-made articles.....	96,731.40	106,801.46		80,894.62		122,638.24
Total.....	277,315.36	468,118.71	202,501.51	262,990.53	146,438.77	336,004.77

<sup>a</sup> Less articles condemned during the year.

<sup>b</sup> Appraised value, \$135,518.98.

The following table shows the cost of material furnished for fabrication to each of the depot shops, the cost of articles fabricated, and the cost of services during the year:

	Cost of material.	Cost of fabri- cated arti- cles.	Amount paid for services.
Tailor.....	\$101,095.12	\$143,958.75	\$40,606.61
Underwear and bedding.....	34,634.94	45,669.68	9,429.37
Knitting.....	5,065.11	7,846.09	2,494.55
Suspender.....	1,201.59	1,357.54	87.50
Printing.....	2,062.75	3,380.46	978.92
Depot proper.....			5,450.17
Sundry expenses.....			936.56
Total.....	144,049.51	202,212.52	59,968.71

For more detailed statements of the transactions at the depot during the year, showing the prices paid for piecework, the amount of material and articles on hand and fabricated and expended during the year, the cost of material and of manufacture, amount and value of articles sent to the various Branches, and the average quantity of goods and old material used in the manufacture of the various articles, attention is invited to the following tabulations from "A" to "O:"<sup>a</sup>

**NO. 10.—REPORT ON AN INSPECTION OF THE MOUNTAIN BRANCH,  
MADE SEPTEMBER 8 AND 9, 1902.**

Post-office. Johnson City, Tenn.

Officers. Col. John P. Smith has been appointed governor of this Branch, but inasmuch as the buildings had not been completed, he had not been assigned to duty, and the supervision of the construction was under the charge of Gen. J. T. Richards, who represents the Home. He is very attentive to his duties and efficient in their performance. His selection seems to have been a fortunate one.

Grounds. The natural advantage of the location of this Branch, with its rolling grounds and pure mountain atmosphere, reflect great credit on the choice of this site. Additional land, amounting to 69 acres, needed in order to round off and make more symmetrical the shape of the reservation, has been purchased, and the cleaning and grading of the grounds has progressed rapidly.

The present difficulties facing the Branch are the questions of water supply and the disposition of the sewage. A contract has been made with the Johnson City Water Company, but this company does not seem to be carrying out the spirit of the contract, as it is reported that old material is being used, and in the placing of the pipes at the required depth the earth is piled up on the top of the ground to claim the depth required by the contract instead of having the trench or ditch at the proper depth. It is understood that the pipes crossing the stream are not sufficiently sunk in the ground, and are largely held in place by stones which may be washed out during high water.

The company seems to have the advantage in the clause looking to the final purchase of the water plant at the expiration of the lease. The clause in the contract referring to delays from accidents should have provided that the governor should determine when the length of time was considered reasonable.

If the water company should attempt an undue advantage over the Home, it may still be necessary for the Home to look for a new water supply. Such supply is reported at a convenient distance and at a reasonable price.

Unfortunately, the Johnson City Water Company and its rival, the Watauga Water Company, are involved in law suits, injunctions and counter injunctions having been granted, over titles to land on which certain springs are located which partly form or may form the water supply of the Branch. Thus far the Branch has not been embarrassed, but as the contest between these water companies continues embarrassment may follow.

In regard to the disposition of the sewage, the town of Johnson City is considering the building of a sewer for the town, which, if

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<sup>a</sup> Not printed.

built, is to connect with the one from the Home; but if the town should not build such a sewer, a septic tank will probably have to be provided by the Home.

A new road from Johnson City has been opened over the high ground, which is desirable and avoids the railroad crossings on the old road. It is understood that no tunnels for the pipes have been provided; this is essential, at least from the power house to the mess hall, and from the power house to the hospital. The mistake made at the Danville Branch should not be repeated, where the tunnels were omitted; after the pipes were in the ground they had to be dug up and a tunnel made at considerable expense, much of which could have been avoided if they had been made when the Home was built.

Construction work had commenced, and the walls of several of the buildings of the hospital group were built to include the first story, and one of them had progressed to almost include the second story. Progress had also been made on the power house as well as the two barracks, which it is understood are to be three stories in height, with basement. An examination of the plans showed some excessive distances of the buildings; for example, it is more than half a mile from the hospital to the chapel; many of the convalescents, who are devout in the performance of their religious duties, will find the walk a long one.

The two tall barracks, although each one having elevators, will, it is thought, be found inconveniently high. If the matter of appropriations were to be considered, it would have been better to have left one barrack not built, and to have carried out the former plan of barracks with two stories and attic. If appropriations did not have to be considered, then an architectural monument should not be built. An impression prevails that this Branch is desired by the architect to be a monument to his skill and ability, and although the best architectural effect should be desired, the prime purpose of the Branch being a home for the old men should not be lost sight of.

The proposed site of the nurses' quarters is too remote from the hospital, and as for the site marked for the guardhouse or barrack, it is extremely far removed and inconvenient.

A better site for the hospital could have been obtained if the buildings had been built more closely and conveniently together, which is always much to be desired where very old men are to be provided for.

It is understood that the architect has made only two visits to the Branch, and although he has a representative on the ground, it is thought that if he could spend more of his time at the Branch it would facilitate construction, remove doubtful questions which have now to be referred to him in New York, and enable some of the buildings to be permanently located, which have thus far been only located tentatively.

The advisability of locating the power house on an elevation above the buildings to be supplied with steam may be an engineering problem which the future must solve.

It is proper to say that the impressions of distances and location of buildings were obtained from the plans which were shown me at the time of the inspection, but later information is given me that these plans were only tentative and many changes of location have been approved. Just what they are I am unable to say.

If the Branch is made compact it will prove convenient and desirable.

NO. 11.—REPORT OF AN INSPECTION OF THE SOUTHERN BRANCH,  
MADE SEPTEMBER 22 TO 25, 1902.

Post-office. National Soldiers' Home, Elizabeth City County, Va.  
Gen. A. L. Pearson, Pittsburg, Pa., the first vice-  
Local manager. president of the Board of Managers, has been appointed  
local manager of this Branch, vice Gen. William J.  
Sewell, deceased.

Governor, Col. William Thompson; treasurer, Maj.  
Officers. W. H. H. Peck; commissary of subsistence, Col.  
Charles Candy; quartermaster, Capt. J. H. Gifford;  
surgeon, Maj. R. S. Vickery; Protestant chaplain, Rev. Joseph H.  
Bradley, D. D.; Catholic chaplain, Rev. T. J. Mercer; matron, Mrs.  
M. Mahon.

Since my last inspection Maj. W. H. H. Peck, who at that time was mentioned as a suitable treasurer to fill the vacancy made by the promotion of the former treasurer to be governor, has been appointed to that position.

The grounds of this Branch, while not as extensive as those of the others, are still attractive in appearance, and their general attractiveness is enhanced by that same delightful climate that makes that favorite health resort, Old Point Comfort, famous. The trees on the parade are well trimmed, many obstructing bushes and vines have been removed, and the general appearance is very satisfactory. The roads, walks, and drives are in good condition, particularly the prominent ones, but a top dressing of broken stone, or oyster shells, are needed on some of them.

This Branch is very old, and originated by the purchase, in 1870, of a large brick building, which had formerly been used as a seminary, and which is ill adapted for barrack purposes; around this, as a central building, were constructed, years ago, many frame buildings for barrack and other purposes; decay has followed in due time. The Branch has not always been kept in the proper state of repair it might have been, and much money for repairs has been and will be required.

Improvements are observed and an evident disposition is displayed to place the Branch in as good condition as is practicable. One of the most noticeable changes, and one which long seemed desirable on account of their unsightly appearance and danger from fire, has been the removal of the many old shanties on the water front near the beer hall, which were conveniently but ill appropriately called boathouses. They were an eyesore and should have been removed many years ago, as had been recommended in former reports. One properly managed building for a boathouse is desirable, but it should be well regulated and used for no other purpose.

The general appearance of the barracks was very satisfactory. Much painting had been done to the buildings. These are in better condition than last year, especially the main building; new floors and new paint have improved its appearance and condition. The old frame barracks referred to last year are somewhat improved, but can never be made satisfactory. Fortunately two of these old buildings are to be removed to make room for a new barrack. The general barracks were in an excellent condition, but the bathing facilities are

noticeably deficient. Company K has but 2 tubs for 184 men and Company I 2 tubs for 170 men. Two of the companies here go to the other barracks for bathing purposes. No system of tickets or other checks are used to keep a record of the bathing or to detect any man who tries to avoid taking the prescribed baths.

The toilet paper is reported not to last for the full time of issue and newspapers are used for toilet purposes; obstructions in the pipes are reported to occasionally happen. If small wooden screens were used for doors in the latrines, privacy would be encouraged. The beds were found to be very satisfactory, clean and free from bugs. The floors and windows were generally in good condition, but it was observed that many articles were under the beds in those barracks having deficient storage facilities. Unfortunately a majority of the companies are not supplied with proper baggage rooms. In the barracks occupied by Companies M and N these could be constructed without much expense, and are desired.

Many improvements were observed since my last inspection, such as the extension of the sea wall or breakwater by 970 linear feet, the remodeling of the quartermaster's old storehouse and bringing it in line with the other buildings on the avenue, fire hydrants on McClelland avenue, flooring of main building, hospital, convalescent companies and barrack Company F, painting hospital, barracks, and other buildings, exterior and interior, and many improvements in plumbing, toilet and bath rooms, and an annex building at the hospital for dispensary and operating room.

For the current fiscal year a new frame barrack, to cost \$13,000, and new water-tube boilers, to cost \$8,000, are about to be built. New quarters for the chaplain and an addition to building No. 47, at a total estimated cost of \$11,500, are contemplated for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904.

This Branch, in regard to numbers, is next to the largest, the average present during the year being 3,135, or 255 less than last year. This is probably due to the action of the Board of Managers in stopping admissions or transfers to this Branch, which has been overcrowded for some time past. The average number of present and absent for the year was 4,417, or 343 less than last year. The number of absent still remains the largest of all the Branches, it this year being 1,282. The number cared for during the year was 4,865, or 614 less than last year. The largest number present during the year was 3,287, on December 18, 1901, and the smallest was 2,774, on June 28, 1902. The largest number absent during the year was 1,605, on July 3, 1901, and the smallest was 1,101, on March 14, 1902. The average temporarily cared for was 22, or 36 less than last year.

The average age of the members of the Home was 63.48 years, and the age of the members admitted during the year was 61 years.

There were 38 veterans of the Spanish-American war at this Branch on June 30, 1901; 9 have been admitted since, 6 have been discharged, 13 dropped from the rolls, 1 has been transferred, and 20 were remaining on the rolls on June 30, 1902. There were 64 vacant beds in the barracks and 13 in the hospital at the date of inspection.

The inspection and review of the officers and members present was held September 24, 1902. It was the best seen at this Branch, and was



preceded by "escort to the colors." Competition between companies has been considerably developed since last inspection, and a handsome silk banner is competed for. The governor reports the effect of this competition very beneficial to the discipline of the Branch, and arouses an interest in the members. At the inspection the clothing was very clean, and almost every man had his shoes well polished.

At the review the men marched in columns of platoons, with officers leading. But the officers did not wear the letters "N. H. D. V. S." on the collars of their blouses. Altogether the ceremony was excellently rendered, with a very large percentage of the members present. The time of the music, however, was rather too fast, most of the men not being able to step as lively as in former times. There were 1,990 in line, including officers and the band of 26 pieces, or 69 per cent of the total in camp. This is the largest percentage in line at review of any of the Branches, and no other Branch turned out as large a force at review this inspection. There were 428 sick, 376 on extra duty, and 81 excused, a total of 885. Those absent from camp were 1,165 with leave and 4 without leave.

The per cent of members committing no offenses during the year was but 34.91, and is very much the poorest showing of any of the Branches, the next lowest being 79.10 per cent. The principal offense reported was drunkenness, for which there were 2,191 trials, or 70 per cent of the average present, and 108 more than last year. This state of affairs at this Branch appears to be due to the large number of whisky joints in the vicinity of the main entrance to the grounds, notwithstanding the regulations against bringing liquor into the reservation are so strictly enforced as to cause many complaints by innocent members.

It would be a great benefit to the Home if some means could be devised by which these saloons and dives could be abolished or caused by State legislation to remove some distance away from the reservation.

The largest number drunk in one day was 48 on June 23, 1902, subsequent to a pension day. The number of trials for fence jumping was 55, for absence without leave 50, and for various other offenses 406.

The facilities for the amusement and recreation of the members comprise a handsome theater, billiard room with 3 billiard and 2 pool tables, smoking or card room with 2 tables for cards, social hall with reading room, library, band concerts, boating, baseball, chess, and checkers.

The theater, a fine brick building with a seating capacity of 1,353, has been improved and thoroughly renovated, old scenery on the stage removed and replaced by new, is now one of the best of any among the Branch Homes. It is used for the celebration of anniversaries of soldiers' organizations, encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union Veteran Legion, band concerts, etc., and has rooms for billiards and pool, cards, checkers, and chess. There were 36 paid performances and 3 free during the year, for which no charge is made to the members, but others must pay from 15 cents to 50 cents. The total amount expended during the year for these performances was \$4,260. The American flag is displayed on the drop curtain and is saluted by all rising, accompanied by music, just before the beginning of the performance. The Star Spangled Banner is played on the conclusion of the performance and all rising.

The library, situated on Averill avenue, contains 9,620 volumes. During the year 193 were added and 350 disposed of after condemnation. Sixteen newspapers and 26 periodicals are subscribed for, and 7 newspapers and 10 periodicals are furnished free. During the year 45,094 volumes were circulated, the largest circulation of any of the Branches, and an average of 14.3 books per member. The average daily attendance was 351; and the class of reading matter most in demand was fiction, such as *The American Senator*, *Phineas Finn*, *The Page of the Duke of Savoy*, *Margaritta de Valois*, *Lorna Doone*, *Westward Ho*, *Captain Blake*, *the Colonel's Daughter*, *the Honorable Peter Stirling*, and *Christie Johnston*.

There is an excellent band composed of 25 civilians and 1 member maintained at an annual cost of \$9,213, including subsistence and other allowances of civilians. This was at the rate of \$354.34 a year per musician, and is next to the smallest cost of all the Branches. It is at the rate of \$40.76 per concert and \$2.93 per number of average present. The concerts given are particularly good, and were well attended both by the members and by outsiders, many of whom travel long distances to enjoy them. There were 200 concerts given out of doors and 26 in doors during the year, and the class of music was principally the best classical, operatic and popular, with national airs at every concert. The members have also posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union Veteran Legion, and the Christian Endeavor Society, with a total membership of 330.

Religious services. Religious services are held seven times per week in the Home chapel, and in the cemetery when weather permits. The chapel was found in good order and looked well, and has a seating capacity of 450. The average attendance was 150 of Protestant and 700 Catholic, the number of services of the former being 329 and of the latter 244. The Protestant chaplain lives at the Home, where it is contemplated erecting new quarters for him, and the Catholic chaplain lives at Old Point, Va. The former made 225 visits to the sick during the year and the latter 365.

Farm. Some two years ago it was decided to discontinue the cultivation of land as a farm, and only 3 acres were cultivated as a garden. The average number employed per year on the vegetable garden was 2; on the flower garden, 4; on the lawn, 13, and teaming, 12. The value of the products was \$378.65.

The following statement of the products during the year shows their cost and distribution:

Turned into commissary .....	\$378. 65
Fed to stock .....	0
Sold .....	0
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>378. 65</b>
Cost of maintaining garden .....	275. 00
Cost of maintaining lawn and flower garden .....	2, 768. 18
Cost of maintaining transportation and teams .....	3, 752. 82

Credit for use of transportation not known.

There were 23 public vehicles and 11 public animals, and the value of the stock was reported as being \$1,005.

The treasurer's office, with the books, accounts, vouchers, etc., was inspected from October 2, 1901, the time of my last inspection, to September 20, 1902, and found to be correct.

The transactions may be stated as follows:

	General fund.	Pension fund.	Post fund.	Total.
Balance on hand Oct. 2, 1901.....	\$35,761.56	\$14,660.29	\$18,002.15	\$68,424.00
Transfers from officers.....	415,280.38	498,404.62	13,489.98	927,174.98
From sales.....	17,407.48		73,851.63	91,259.11
Total to be accounted for.....	468,449.42	513,064.91	105,343.76	1,086,858.09
Expended.....	383,366.06	376,322.14	83,558.77	843,246.97
Transferred to officers.....	42,268.65	13,327.65	13,489.98	69,086.28
Total accounted for.....	425,634.71	389,649.79	97,048.75	912,333.25
Balance on hand Sept. 20, 1902.....	42,814.71	123,415.12	8,295.01	174,524.84
	468,449.42	513,064.91	105,343.76	1,086,858.09

The balances pertaining to the above funds were all on deposit with the Norfolk National Bank, at Norfolk, Va.

The transactions in the general fund, embracing the subheads current expenses, subsistence, clothing, household, hospital, transportation, repairs, farm, and special appropriations, were as follows: Received during the year ending June 30, 1902, \$372,264.19; disbursed, \$272,177.41. The principal item of expense was for subsistence, which amounted to \$176,502.35. The expenditures were all made by check. There was \$4,089.01 received from posthumous sources, of which \$3,141.06 had been expended.

The improvements contemplated, now under way, or authorized for the fiscal year were two water-tube boilers and a frame barrack, at an estimated cost of \$21,000; and those needed for the year ending June 30, 1904, are quarters for the chaplain and an addition to building No. 47, at an estimated cost of \$11,500.

The total average number of employees under this fund was 852, or an increase of 354 over last year, and is 27.1 per cent of the annual average present at the Home. They received during the year a total of \$85,230.84 as salaries, or an average of \$100.03 each—much the lowest average of all the Branches. They comprised 6 officers who received \$11,358.84, 23 noncommissioned officers who received \$6,075, 783 members who received \$46,754.34, and 40 civilians who received \$21,042.66. There were in addition an average of 50 members who worked without pay.

The average per capita cost of maintenance for the year was \$126.11, the lowest of all the Branches, and is \$11.2175 less than the average for the Home as a whole.

The total average number employed on post-fund work during the year was 45 members, who received \$6,760 per annum, and 35 civilians, who received \$9,288.47, a total of \$16,048.47, and an average per employee of \$203.60.

The amount of beer sold during the year was 88,830 gallons, and cost \$18,328.86, for which \$42,502.90 was received, or a profit of 132 per cent. The number of liquid ounces of beer sold for 5 cents was 12½, and the glass has a capacity for 15½ ounces. The average amount received for a barrel of beer at this Branch was \$14.89. The system of selling only one beer check at a time to each member produces a more moderate drinking of beer than at any other Branch. The method of handling the checks to insure the safety of the tickets is

the best. So far as practicable, if the beer-hall methods at this Branch were adopted at the others it would be an advantage.

There is a good hotel run on the reservation which is well kept and run at a profit by the post fund. It is a great convenience.

The net profits of this fund for the year was reported as being \$1,401.92.

There were 3,800 pensioners on the rolls on June 30, 1902, or 86 per cent of the membership of the Branch.

Of these there were 2,562 present at the Home. The total amount expended for pensions during the year was \$339,062.10 in currency to those present at the Branch, and \$168,168.72 by check to those absent, and the balance on hand was \$11,820.16, which was to the credit of 66 members. Fifty-one of these had less than \$100 to their credit, 14 had between \$100 and \$500, and 1 had over \$1,000 to his credit. The pensioners receive amounts ranging from \$6 to \$72 per month. There are 3 clerks employed on the pension business who receive a total annual salary of \$780.

There are, including the main building, 16 barracks, which were occupied by 2,182 men. Three of these have basements which are partly used for storage of quartermaster stores. There were 318 men sleeping in attics and 59 in other places. There are 85 bath tubs, or an average of 34 men to each tub, but the 2,182 men in barracks and 318 in attics have the use of only 59 tubs, or about 42 men to each tub. A considerable variety of hats and caps are worn by the members around the Home grounds, and for the sake of uniformity orders should determine what should be worn, and not left to the choice of the men.

The clothing for issue is piled on tables in the quartermaster's storehouses and covered over with old bed spreads. The other Branches generally utilize the original packing boxes, with covers, and use moth balls with the clothing. This method protects the clothing from moths and dust, is better than the one now used at this Branch, and should be adopted.

The invoice value of property received during the year was reported as follows:

Received from general depot .....	\$30,322.90
By purchase .....	250,897.87
By transfer .....	156.97
<b>Total! .....</b>	<b>281,377.74</b>

Considerable quantities of turpentine (40 gallons) and oil are kept in the paint shop; this unnecessarily increases the danger from fire. The old gasoline house is of brick and an excellent place for storage of extra turpentine and oil, and only small quantities should be kept in the paint shop. The governor informed me that orders would be given to this effect.

In the laundry there are 20 people employed, and the average number of pieces laundered during a month was 5,131. The cost for laundry work during the year for labor and materials was \$3,748.66. No work was done outside the Home.

The Home is protected against fire by 2 chemical engines, 9 hydrants, 5 standpipes, 157 fire extinguishers, 1 hook and ladder, and 2 hose reels. The fire organization consists of a company of 39 men. In addition, each Home company has 4 men appointed to handle the fire hose of standpipes and fire extinguishers in barracks. During the year only one

small fire occurred; it was in the restaurant and was quickly put out by the extinguishers without loss to the Home. This department was inspected and found very satisfactory. The alarm was responded to promptly and the two streams from the hose and chemical engine were in operation in a reasonable time, the ladders arriving first.

The engineer department has an average number of 57 members and 12 civilians employed during the year, and has four shops, all suitably located. The steam plant consists of thirteen 50-horsepower and two 100-horse power boilers, costing \$42,000, which are used for the purpose of power, cooking, and heating. The general cost of maintaining it was \$38,900.

The supply of water is obtained from the Newport News Water Company, some wells on the grounds, and a salt-water system for flushing the water-closets. With the exception of the latter, it was reported as being satisfactory. The drainage and sewage system is by means of pumping and by gravity, but was not very satisfactory, as additional pumps were needed.

There is no lighting plant at this Branch; the electricity is obtained by contract from the Hampton Electric Light and Power Company, of Hampton, Va., at \$10,449.83 for the last year, for 21 arc and 1,935 incandescent lights.

There is a 10-ton ice machine here, which cost \$2,233.72 for maintenance for the last year. It has a capacity for five tons per day and has 15,627 cubic feet of air space to cool. The ice cost the Home at the rate of 60 cents per ton.

The value of subsistence stores on hand June 30, 1902, was reported as being \$13,007.95, and the value of that condemned was \$2,367.91. Inventories are taken monthly, and the facilities for receiving and taking care of supplies and for cooking and serving meals are ample. The dining hall and kitchen were neat and in good order, but roaches were found with the bread for sale to officers and others, kept in the commissary storehouse, and the basement of this building was not clean. The dining hall has a capacity for 1,188, and the tables here also are set twice for each meal. Together with the kitchen, it is inspected at intervals by the surgeon and daily by the commissary. In the dining hall there are employed an average of 36 permanent and 82 temporary employees. In the kitchen are 40 permanent and no temporary employees.

The bill of fare for the week ending June 28, 1902, was as follows:

*Sunday.*

Breakfast: Sugar-cured breakfast bacon, baked beans, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Roast mutton with gravy dressing, potatoes, rice pudding, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Stewed dried apples, cheese, bread, oleomargarine, tea.

*Monday.*

Breakfast: Sugar-cured shoulders, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Beef stew with potatoes, onions and tomatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Cracked wheat mush, syrup, bread, oleomargarine, tea.

*Tuesday.*

Breakfast: Sugar-cured shoulders, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef with gravy dressing, potatoes, macaroni, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Stewed navy beans, bread, oleomargarine, tea.

*Wednesday.*

Breakfast: Meat hash with potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Boiled corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Stewed dried peaches, bread, oleomargarine, tea.

*Thursday.*

Breakfast: Fricassee meat, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef with gravy dressing, potatoes, lima beans, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Bologna sausage, bread, oleomargarine, tea.

*Friday.*

Breakfast: Boiled mackerel, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Stewed codfish with dressing, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Stewed dried prunes, cheese, bread, bunnis, oleomargarine, tea.

*Saturday.*

Breakfast: Cold sliced beef, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Dinner: Roast beef with gravy dressing, dried green peas, potatoes, bread, oleomargarine, coffee.

Supper: Hominy grits, syrup, bread, oleomargarine, tea.

The hospital was found generally in a satisfactory condition, but the paint on some of the walls was scaling and lint was under some of the beds. In the kitchen the walls and ceiling is badly soiled by flies and has a dirty appearance; it should be repainted. The hospital has a capacity for 450 patients and for 210 in convalescent quarters. A new operating room and dispensary has been constructed at a cost of \$3,800. It is handsomely furnished and is the best seen at any of the Branches. It is well equipped with instruments and other appliances. The office was in good order, but in the letters-sent book only letters to the president of the Board of Managers, the governor, and the Home officers are entered, and to other persons only memoranda are kept. Many of these should have been copied into the book. On June 30, 1902, there were reported 416 patients in the hospital and 124 in the convalescent companies. The average for the year was 407 at the hospital and 120 in convalescent companies. There were 582 admitted to the hospital during the year and 8.5 was the average number of days each case was treated. The total number of patients treated during the year was 2,671. The percentages of the principal diseases were as follows:

*Chronic.*—Rheumatism, 12.2; gastro-intestinal, 10.1; respiratory, 8; diseases of the heart, 5.8.

*Acute.*—Bronchitis, pleurisy, pneumonia, 8.1; diarrhea, gastritis, 6.7; cystitis and nephritis, 4.6.

*Surgical.*—Fractures and dislocations, 0.9.

*Local.*—Intestinal and ophthalmic.

*Infectious or contagious.*—Pulmonary tuberculosis, erysipelas.

During the year 195 members died in the hospital, 2 in convalescent quarters, and 52 outside of the Home; a total of 249. The causes of these deaths were reported as being 247 from natural causes, 1 from violence, and 1 from the result of accident.

The average age of these at the time of their death was 69 years. There were 166 buried in the Home cemetery, and the cost of funerals at this Branch is \$15.60.

The hospital employees consist of 78 members and 21 civilians, and the total amount received by them as salaries during the past year was \$20,774.26, or an average of \$209.94 each.

The cost of extra diet for the year was \$829.60. The number showing disordered minds during the year was 76, and the number permanently insane was 18. Of these, 5 were sent to an asylum. The average annual insane at the Home was 21. They generally are quartered in wards in the hospital; 6 were sleeping under the level of the ground. All are cared for by nurses, and by way of recreation have reading, indoor games, and, except the violent ones, are allowed to mingle with the other members of the Home.

The facilities for properly caring for them are reported not to be ample and a special building and grounds would improve them.

The number of members totally blind was 16, and those with impaired eyesight was 40, all of whom require assistance. They are read to twice daily by a reader. The per cent of those totally blind to the average present was 5 per cent.

Three members were under treatment for alcoholism.

The inspection of the accounts and records at this Branch show the following:

The fiscal affairs at this Branch were found somewhat involved, and much delay was experienced in obtaining a proper statement of the accounts. A large amount of cash seemed to be kept on hand, claimed to be due to the fact that the depository was so distant that frequent deposits could not be made of the moneys received from sales of beer, etc. At the date of inspection there was reported as cash not on deposit the sum of \$77,368.58, as follows:

On special deposit in the vault of the Norfolk National Bank:

Pension fund .....	\$66,200.56	
Post.....	1,000.00	
		<hr/> \$67,200.56

In treasurer's vault:

Currency in original packages (pension fund).....	10,000.00	
Currency in notes and coin (post fund).....	168.02	
		<hr/> 10,168.02
Total .....	77,368.58	

It seems that the treasurer had received from the pension agent some time prior to September 20, 1902, a check for the payment of the quarterly pensions amounting to \$76,200.56, and that on presenting this check to the Norfolk National Bank for deposit to his official credit it was declined. The check, however, was apparently cashed and \$67,200.56 received by the bank as a special deposit by the treasurer of the Branch Home. As a "special deposit" this large sum was not covered by the bonds placed in the hands of the United States Treasurer to secure the funds officially deposited, nor was the Home protected, in case of loss, by any security other than the treasurer's bond. It also appears that under date of September 13, 1902, the sum of \$10,000 was shipped from the United States Treasury to the treasurer of this Branch, and was held in his personal possession until the close of the inspection, September 25, 1902.

Among the checks paid was one signed by the present treasurer as a duplicate of one issued by the former treasurer. To correct this error the former treasurer issued a new check on his balance to meet his outstanding checks dated after he had relinquished his office in favor of the present treasurer, and it was paid by the bank. Perhaps it may be necessary at this Branch to draw checks for such large amounts as \$1,000 from the post fund to procure change for use at the beer hall, restaurant, and store on "pension day," but such a need has not been found at any of the other Branches.

Of the 6 clerks paid from the post fund, 3 are charged as employed on the pension accounts, 2 on post-fund accounts, and 1 as clerk to the council of administration.

The electric light for the post-fund buildings is furnished under contract at 7 cents per watt hour, measured by meter. The bills, it was stated, were paid without verification by the chief engineer or any official of the Home.

The electric lighting paid from the general fund is under a general contract at \$4.60 per light per annum. Possibly the electric lights were used in the library as much as in any other building. It was reported that under meter measurements the cost of the 55 lights used at that place for the year was \$208.66; under the general fund contract these lights would have cost \$253, or about 21 per cent more than by meter.

During August, 1902, it seems 1,916 incandescent lights were charged for at \$4.60 per year.

Possibly some saving might have been effected by applying to all the meter system of measurement, and have the bills countersigned by an officer of the Home.

In several instances it was noted that money pertaining to the last fiscal year was used to pay for articles not for the service of that fiscal year, as they were not received until after its close.

In the property book it was noted that there was no ice on hand at the end of each ten-day period. The amount reported as fabricated during each ten days is charged off as issued, and in the last monthly period the amount issued as sales during the month is added to the "fabrication" and "issued" for that period, nor is there any account taken of the amount fabricated and issued to the ice barrels, etc., for the use of the members. During the month of July the records show the following number of pounds as fabricated: July 10, 19,000; July 20, 21,430; July 30, 65,225—or 105,655 pounds during the month. A report of the chief engineer shows as fabricated during the same period as follows: July 10, 78,700 pounds; July 20, 77,500 pounds; July 31, 80,900 pounds—in all, 237,100 pounds. No doubt there is some wastage in the distribution, but will that account for the apparent loss of 131,445 pounds during the month, or about 55 per cent of the amount fabricated?

In the record of the bread fabricated, etc., it appears that from November 10, 1900, to January 1, 1902, for each ten-day period the balance on hand was the same, viz, 5,233 pounds, and on January 10, 1902, this balance was reduced to 4,723 pounds, and has continued at that number of pounds to September 20, 1902, the last record made. A remarkable showing, as illustrating how accurately the amount fabricated and issued balanced each other every ten days' period for nearly two years.

It may be remarked that the baker reported as fabricated 125 more pounds in July and 1,251 in August, more than the amount taken up on the property ledger, also that there was about 10,000 more pounds fabricated in August than in July, and that the average present in August was only 63 over July.

The shop accounts were kept as before the issue of General Orders, No. 4, June 17, 1902. A verification of some articles of clothing was made and the records were found satisfactory.

The pension balance on hand June 30, 1902, was .....	\$11,820.16
Members in the Home.....	7,439.38
Former members in Government Hospital .....	1,154.45
Former members, address unknown .....	1,603.83
Interest on former bonds .....	1,562.50
Total .....	11,820.16



Under the Home regulations the quartermaster is charged with the keeping of the time books of all employees, and from these time books the treasurer makes up the monthly pay roll, and is required to certify thereon "that the duty or labor has been performed by the person to whom the money has been paid," a fact that neither he nor any person for whom he is responsible had any knowledge except as to the employees in his own office. Why not have the quartermaster make up and certify the roll to the treasurer who, after payment, can certify as to the payment, just as the paymaster pays the roll made up by the company commander, and thus avoid abasing an officer's certificate. All matters connected with this Branch, and not commented upon in this report, were found in satisfactory condition.



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